Tulare County

LIBRARY
MASTER PLAN
1972

Prepared By :   Tulare County Planning Department

TULARE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

Room 107 Courthouse — Telephone 732-5511, Ext. 341

VISALIA, CALIFORNIA

93277

May 10, 1972

Tulare County Board of Supervisors
Tulare County Planning Commission

Gentlemen:

The Tulare County Planning Department is pleased to submit herewith, the
first comprehensive analysis and planning program for Tulare County's
Library System.

The report includes an appraisal of the physical and administrative char-
acteristics of the existing system and establishes basic guidelines for
future branch or system development. Further, the adoption of this pro-
gram by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will fulfill
one of the requirements of the Public Buildings and Grounds Element of
the County General Plan pursuant to Section 65302 of the Government Code.

The Planning Department wishes to express sincere gratitude to Mr. David
Ogden, County Administrative Officer and Mrs. Joan Kasten, County
Librarian and their respective staffs, for their assistance and support
in providing advice and compiling much of the information included
within the study.

Respectfully submitted,

TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Donald A. Woolfe,
Planning Director

DAW:ew

This Report Prepared By:

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Summary and Recommendations

SUMMARY

Need for a Library Study

1. Until this study was undertaken there had been no comprehensive
    study of the Tulare County Library system. Thus, past decisions
    relating to the direction of the system have been made without
    the benefit of a policy-making instrument to guide the develop-
    ment of a balanced, library system within the urban and rural
    areas of the county.

2. The existing Tulare County Library system consists of 25
    satellite branch libraries and deposit stations within the
    operational jurisdiction of a central facility. This system,
    established 60 years ago, currently attempts to serve the
    expanded demands of an urban-oriented society. This has become
    an increasingly impossible task due to increasing inadequate
    physical facilities, substandard book stock and ineffective
    methods of operation.

Growth Strategy

3. In Tulare County the matter of locational suitability of library
    facilities does not appear to have ever been seriously considered
    as evidenced by the fragmented development and service area con-
    siderations of the county's present library system.

4. There is a need to evolve a "growth or service center" approach
   to county-wide public resource management. This concept involves
   the concentration of public resources (such as libraries) to
   create, sustain and/or arrest deterioration within established
   communities. In addition, the social, economic and environmental
   limitations which exist in many communities render questionable
   the provision of any major public resource such as a library.

Physical Condition

5. A major objective of the library study was to conduct an inventory
   and analysis of the physical characteristics of each library in
   the county. Of the twenty-three libraries inventoried, fourteen
   were found to be in "poor" physical condition. However, the major
   deficiency common to all libraries in the county was a noticeable
   lack of adequate floor space.

Library Users

6. Knowledge of the characteristics, needs and habits of library users
   is an extremely important determinant in the planning for physical
   library facilities and services. The information obtained
   through a library users survey can be translated into the
   following salient conclusions:

   a. Although adults use libraries less frequently than
      students, adults constitute the largest category of

users in most of the larger urban libraries. There
are more female library users than male.

b. Certain libraries experience a seasonal change in user
clientele.

c. A lower proportion of people who speak languages other
than English use the public library less often than
would be expected from the overall ethnic and demo-
graphic composition of the county.

d. Two factors which condition the use-frequency rating
of a library are the number of hours open to the public
and the compatability of those hours with user habits.
There are eleven critically low use libraries in the
county.

e. Recreational reading is the dominant use in all
libraries in the county.

f. Only 12% of all library users combine shopping trips
with library visitation.

g. Libraries located in urbanized communities have mostly
"drive-in" patrons, whereas, those located within
smaller communities have "walk-in" patrons. In general,
the more compact the community, the more localized is
the library service area.

h. Respondents to the user survey issued a strong plea for
    newer and larger book collection, and longer and varied
    hours of service.

7. Based on demand estimates established within the context of the
    user survey and other pervasive standards, the existing library
    facilities and services in Tulare County supply only a portion
    of the facilities needed to properly service all residents.
    This need for a broader range of facilities exists today and will
    increase substantially over the next 20 years.

Organization and Operation

8. The ability of the County Public Library to furnish a diverse col-
    lection of books, periodicals, pamphlets, newspapers and related
    materials for its patrons is severely limited under the present
    system of operation and the existing shortage of adequate physical
    facilities.

9. The policy of providing public facilities and services in some
    semi-rural counties is to bring services directly to the people
    by utilizing a local, non-professional staff and locating
    facilities in practically all unincorporated communities.
    The rationale behind this concept is challenged by the following
    factors:

    a. Citizen mobility has increased.

b. The composition of the citizens of the county is
    rapidly changing resulting in increased service demands
    and expanded awareness of events and activities out-
    side the community.

c. Today's qualified professionals are trained to find
    better, less costly methods of providing expanded and
    improved service.

d. A pronounced population shift from rural to urban areas
    has accelerated in recent years.

10. Currently, the absence of middle management structure and staff to
    whom routine line operational areas can be delegated is seen as a
    major administrative defect of the library organization and a
    distinct handicap to the attainment of any system program genuinely
    geared to meeting current needs of Tulare County citizens.

11. Low salaries, low qualification standards and the geographical
    isolation of most of the branch libraries from urban areas have
    been the source of difficulty in recruiting and maintaining
    qualified professional staff in the branch system. None of the
    county's branch libraries employs a qualified, professionally
    accredited librarian.

Operational Costs

12. A branch library system, in an operational sense, is more costly

than a central system, due to the cost of a continuing movement of books nearer to the patrons. This concept proceeds from the hypothesis that people should not have to spend their time and money moving to where the books are permanently located. The result is that small branch libraries reflect higher cost factors for less overall activity. As a general characteristic, they circulate proportionately fewer books with a higher per book cost than larger urban-oriented libraries.

Service Areas

13. If a rural library system is to supply at least a minimum level of service, its resources cannot be wasted in a costly, inefficient, over-distribution of inadequate service centers. The existing library system in Tulare County has at least eleven overlapping service areas. Patrons thus have a choice between several library branches, few of which can offer even minimum facilities or services.

14. A service area of 3,000 population is considered the minimum population threshold to support library services in a rural branch library system. Twelve libraries in Tulare County have service areas with under 3,000 persons, none of which is projected to exceed 3,000 population by 1990. In contrast, eleven libraries in the county now service populations in excess of 3,000 persons. By 1990, these eleven libraries will serve a projected population of nearly 217,000 or 85% of the total population of the county.

Also, by 1990, 78% of the people in the county will be living
within the urban areas of the eight incorporated cities, as com-
pared to 63% currently.

15.   This rapid population shift will ultimately result in the
      isolation of many branch libraries within stagnating or dying
      communities. Retention of physical access as a major criteria
      for the distribution system in this case implies an overdistri-
      bution of resources in limited quantity, neglect of major focal
      areas, and a predictable high cost for maintenance of lightly
      used multiple physical facilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The distribution of library resources should serve or reinforce a county-wide growth and resource management strategy. Also, the magnitude, direction, and quality of the population shifts indicated by the projected 20% decline in rural area population and the resultant forecasted 1990 78% urban population should be considered as a controlling factor in library systems planning.

2. A system of priorities should be developed which would concentrate library service within communities where the service is feasible, in terms of operational efficiency, and likely to be a positive force for continued development of the community.

3. The county and cities faced with increasing costs and limited resources must attempt to use their resources in the most efficient way possible through the evolution of a growth center approach to county-wide resource management. Such growth centers located in each sub-area of the county will minimize future migration problems and will help to arrest deterioration within growing communities.

4. Public resource commitments to communities with little or no authentic future should be carefully examined before final action is initiated. These communities would, as a consequence of withholding major public facilities, enter a process of long term, natural decline as residents depart for improved opportunities in nearby communities.

5. Small, non-viable library branches which provide inadequate facilities
    and inefficient service or whose service areas are overlapped by large
    well equipped urban libraries or whose existing and future service area
    population is not sufficient to maintain a library; should be served
    by other methods such as bookmobiles or portable/temporary facilities
    as well as area-wide full service libraries located in each sub-area
    of the county. Mobile or portable/temporary facilities can also be
    placed in areas impacted by special projects such as the Nuclear
    Reactor or Mineral King, or in those areas where it is necessary to
    test the need for a permanent facility.

6. Basic improvements are needed in public rest rooms, expanded floor area,
    identification, cooling equipment, lighting, drinking fountains, exter-
    ior repair and the provision of safety and fire fighting equipment. If
    an adequate library service is to be offered, a comprehensive capital
    improvement program directed toward rebuilding, remodeling and/or ex-
    panding certain key library facilities is required. It is recommended
    that the requirements for federal assistance for library capital
    improvement monies be adhered to.

7. Full consolidation of the libraries of Porterville, Tulare and
    Visalia with the county system should be carefully considered as
    to the advantages of providing uniform service and cost distri-
    bution, central administration control and reduction in the
    duplication of resources. If there is no consolidation, then it
    may be appropriate to consider the relocation of the County Central
    Facility to a central location where it will not duplicate the
    services of the City of Visalia Library.

8. Increased mobile programs should be offered in the areas where mobility to a library is a restriction against increased patronage (farm labor camps, senior citizens residences and communities where library service has phased out) or in areas of high activity such as shopping centers.

9. The Bookmobile should be re-oriented from predominantly school service to increased public use within communities. A new Bookmobile should replace the existing thirteen year old model which has over 120,000 miles of service.

10. Increased resources in terms of a newer and larger collection of books, ancillary materials and audio-visual equipment relevant to the social, school, employment and recreational needs of the citizens of Tulare County is recommended. Magazines and periodicals should be located where the public may readily inspect and use them and not in the dark and crowded storage areas where they are currently found.

11. Library users surveys similar to those conducted as a part of this study, should be performed every few years in order to measure the progress of the library program. A special attempt should be made to survey those persons who do not use the library system.

12. It is recommended that improvements be initiated in the general library record keeping system so as to collect valuable statistical information on a continuous basis. A county-wide book inventory and locational index should be developed and maintained using the county's data processing equipment.

13. It is recommended that qualified middle management library personnel
    be employed to administer and coordinate the activities of the
    individual branches and to supervise new book purchases, department
    efficiency and quality control.

14. All library employees should be employed through competitive exam-
    inations.

15. Increased salaries, fringe benefits and promotional opportunities
    should be made available in order that motivation, improved public
    service and public relations will be pursued by each library rep-
    resentative of Tulare County. Young professional librarians should
    be encouraged to seek long term employment with Tulare County, so
    that their professional growth and in-house training will not be
    lost to other library systems.

16. It is recommended that sufficient resources be made available for critically needed internal library training programs. Such training should be regularly supervised and progress should be measured and rewarded. In place of the present policy of employing an untrained, local person to work part-time for a few hours per week, a well qualified librarian could be employed to perform full library service for several libraries on a revolving basis.

17. New or enlarged social programs should be implemented and publicized for the following areas:

    A. Retired, elderly, unemployed, males, existing non-library users and those persons who do not read or speak English.

    B. Library staff involvement in community activities.

    C. Public service programs (lectures, music groups, etc.).

    D. Use of personnel with ethnic backgrounds capable of understanding and communicating with different community groups.

18. De-formalization of library procedure and facilities should be attempted by elimination of fines, location of book drops in areas of easy access. and the creation of inviting reading environments.

19. The number and variation of hours which libraries are open to the public should be tested, rescheduled and increased according to the periods of highest patron demand.

20. Libraries which experienced a substantial change in user clientele
    between the summer and winter months should adjust book stock accord-
    ingly if an adequate permanent book stock is not possible.

21. The alternative library systems, physical plans, costs and construction
    schedule contained in the last chapter of this report should be re-
    viewed carefully and be considered an extension of these recommendations.

Chapter 1

Introduction

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

A moderate but steadily increasing population growth, an increasing public awareness, together with a pronounced population relocation within Tulare County has resulted in growing community demands for various public services. Local government is responsible for the provision of public facilities and services and the county and cities are continually faced with rising costs and limited resources. Therefore, it has become necessary to develop sound development strategies which may be readily translated into public policy relative to identifying the most efficient use of public investments in the community facilities network.

In providing and developing these services, emphasis has traditionally been placed on basic community needs such as: schools, parks, road improvements and police and fire protection. Another public service which is no less important than the already mentioned customary activities is the public library system.

A superficial examination of the library system revealed that no short or long range comprehensive management umbrella relating to either physical library needs or administrative considerations existed. Further, a belief has persisted that certain library service needs were not being met in a satisfactory manner due, no doubt, to the absence of a viable planning and administrative

framework with the resultant inability of the system to respond to the rapidly
accelerating demand changes by library patrons.

Realizing the significant role the public library system must assume in our
information oriented society and the corresponding implications for the
development of balanced communities, the Tulare County Planning Commission
in concert with the County Administrative Office and the County Library De-
partment has undertaken the preparation of this in-depth study.

The study is designed to serve as a policy-making instrument of the Board of
Supervisors and as a general guide to those agencies having a direct interest
in the provision of balanced and adequate library services within the urban
and rural areas of the county. It is intended that this Library Master Plan
will become a part of the public buildings section of the Land Use Element
of our County General Plan. The adoption of this plan will also aid the
county in the preparation of required precise planning elements, as well as
rendering the county eligible for potential federal assistance.

Planning Objectives and Issues

The principal thrust of this study is aimed at identifying present and future
physical library system needs and relating them to appropriate administrative
and fiscal objectives. It is further intended to assist the Board of Super-
visors in developing a policy and decision-making framework designed to
accommodate twenty years of projected county growth and public service demands.
The planning for the wise use and distribution of public facilities in
Tulare County is a relatively difficult task, due to the evolutionary de-
velopment of scattered settlement patterns and the corresponding inevit-

able political responses to providing life supporting services to sparsely populated areas. In the past, human settlement in the county has primarily occurred in extensive clusters at approximately five mile intervals along major transportation routes. This once valid development pattern has long since been overshadowed by our increased physical and social mobility, and the fiscal realities of providing a contemporary array of services to people.
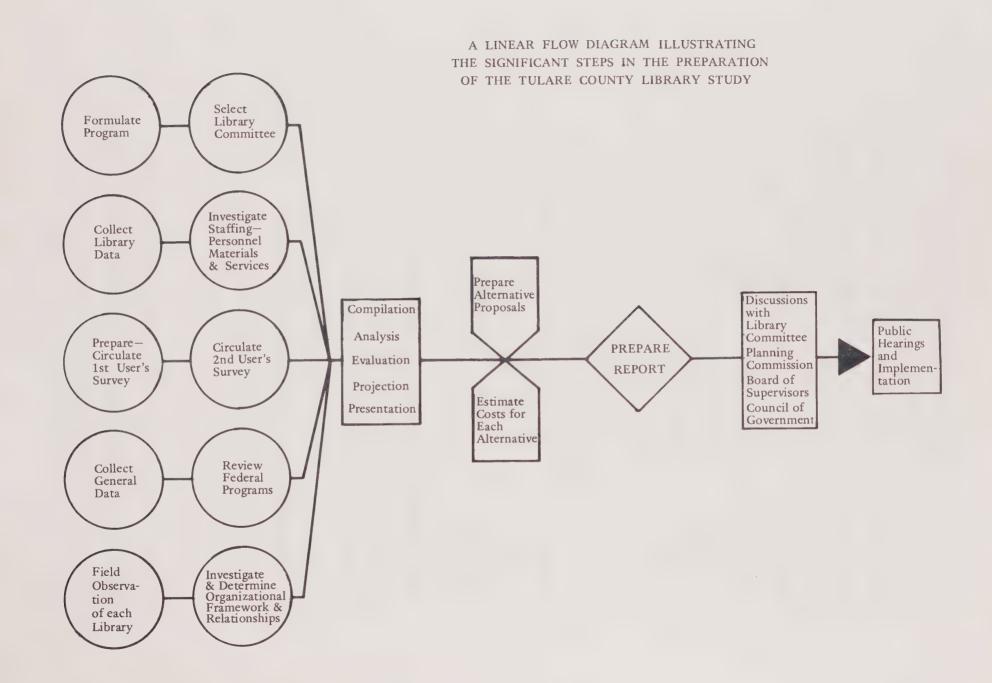
In Tulare County certain settlement nodes at broadly spaced intervals have either grown or reached a state of equilibrium while others within inter-vening areas have declined for various reasons. Therefore, there is a need to evolve a "growth or service center" approach to county-wide public re-source management. This concept involves the concentration of public re-sources to create, sustain and/or arrest deterioration within established communities.

Correspondingly it may be unwise to spread our public investments so thinly that we have too few facilities which adequately fulfill citizen demand while at the same time supporting those which have little or no authentic future. Finally, the provision of library and other services within decay-ing communities could have the undesirable effect of permanently committing residents to a dismal future since the desirable goal of achieving public service parity with the larger communities is simply not possible, given the current level of commitment to rural redevelopment.

We must begin the planning process by carefully examining the roles of our various communities in terms of their relative positions within a predeter-mined county-wide development policy framework. Subsequently, we must program library resources and other public investments to reinforce these policies.

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Study Methodology and Scope

Prior to the preparation of a precise program design, a project directional management committee was formulated which consisted of the following membership: The County Administrative Officer, the County Planning Director, the County Librarian, a representative of the Personnel Department, project planners from the Planning Department, and the City Managers, Planning Directors and the City Librarians from Porterville, Tulare and Visalia. Numerous meetings have been held with full cooperation from all concerned parties. A California State Library consultant participated in one of the meetings. The management committee adopted a modified critical path designed for the interfacing and control of the various components of the study. This critical path diagram is shown on the following pages.

The study consisted of: (1) a review of the objectives and functions of the library system, (2) an inventory and analysis of existing physical conditions of the various branches, (3) an analysis of the concepts essential to the effective location of library facilities, (4) an appraisal of present and future site needs, (5) an analysis of Library user characteristics and attitudes, and (6) the identification and evaluation of medium and long range alternative physical and organizational plans. The scope of the study was originally limited to facilities serving the unincorporated areas, however, during the early course of the study it was determined that in order to have county-wide significance it was necessary to broaden the scope of the effort to include the impact of the three independent city libraries.

A LINEAR FLOW DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING
THE SIGNIFICANT STEPS IN THE PREPARATION
OF THE TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY STUDY

Formulate Program

Select Library Committee

Collect Library Data

Investigate Staffing— Personnel Materials & Services

Prepare— Circulate 1st User's Survey

Circulate 2nd User's Survey

Collect General Data

Review Federal Programs

Field Observation of each Library

Investigate & Determine Organizational Framework & Relationships

Compilation

Analysis

Evaluation

Projection

Presentation

Prepare Alternative Proposals

Estimate Costs for Each Alternative

PREPARE REPORT

Discussions with Library Committee Planning Commission Board of Supervisors Council of Government

Public Hearings and Implementation

Of special note are the Library User Surveys. Two surveys of library users

were each conducted for a two week period. These surveys were the first ever

taken of the Tulare County Library System. In general, every library user

was requested to complete a questionnaire. One survey was completed during

the summer (August 9 to August 21, 1971) when school was not in session. The

second survey was taken during the fall school term (November 8 to November

20, 1971). The first survey was answered by 4,100 library users. The second

survey was completed by 3,100 respondents, the total of 7,200 returns is

believed to be adequate to allow considerable confidence in the results of

the analysis of this information.

However, since each survey was conducted for the same limited but equal period

of time, a number of the mountain and small rural libraries with minimum cir-

culation did not have sufficient survey responses to allow a significant

sampling of the universe or the total number of users of these facilities.

The responses from the surveys can be found in tabular form throughout this

report. Since the number of responses vary between survey questions, each

table contains the number and significancy of the response from each library.

Therefore, the survey data for the libraries with insufficient responses was

not used in the consideration of these libraries without informing the reader

of the data limitations. Significancy was determined as any number of re-

sponses above 5% of the average monthly circulation with the additional

restriction of a minimum of fifty responses.

The information received from the two surveys has been extremely useful, both

as direct informational determinatives and as supportive data regarding other

less related issues. The user surveys were especially helpful in the formation

of recommendations for improved service and facilities. The complete computer

printouts of the totals, number and percentage response for each question contained in the surveys is found in the Appendix.

Study Limitations

The staff was faced with four major constraints in the preparation of this study; these were:

1. A lack of a comprehensive and current data base, by branch, resulting in the need to develop primary data within a limited time period, and a lack of established comparative trends.

2. The lack of adopted, local library standards and policies relative to operational goals, physical needs or service distributions.

3. Because of time constraints, user surveys intervals were limited to only two week periods and persons who do not regularly use the system were not interviewed.

4. The lack of similar studies of comparable semi-rural systems.

The Library -- Toward a Definition

The recorded word is the means by which man transcends death by preserving from age to age the heritage of knowledge and wisdom found and recorded, thus building on the achievement and real progress of civilization and the social man.

The Public Library as a storehouse of this knowledge exists for the purpose of providing the opportunity for every person to share this heritage. It is evident that the public library today is playing, or should be playing, a more dominant role as a clearing house for ideas. Interest in reading has increased ten-fold in the last one or two decades. Literacy rates and educational levels are consistently improving. This heritage of ideas and knowledge can be found in the public library's collection of books, periodicals, newspapers, documents, films, recordings, and any form in which knowledge is recorded. It is the function of the public library to collect and store this recorded knowledge, make it readily available to its users, and to promote the interest to use it. The performance of this function requires an efficient system of selection, distribution and motivation.

The public library must provide a variety of services for its users, such as: informational sources for specific answers to individual and group problems, supplemental information for students not available in the school library, and other divergent needs. Also, the public library can furnish books, periodicals and literature of particular interest to ethnic groups within its service area. For example, books for language classes in a predominately Mexican-American area or similar resources relating to black history and culture humanities. Public library service also should provide a reciprocal flow of reference materials, inter-library loan courtesies and other customer convenience services. These materials and services should be made readily available to all citizens so they may have the opportunity to:

    a.   educate themselves continually.

    b.   keep abreast of current events.

c. improve their ability to participate in community activities.

d. facilitate advancement of knowledge.

e. make more meaningful leisure time for recreational activities.

Chapter 2

History, Current Relationships and Organizational Structures

CHAPTER II

HISTORY, CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS AND ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

HISTORY AND PRESENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Tulare County Free Public Library system, established in 1910, presently

consists of a distribution system of twenty-five branch/station libraries,

one bookmobile and a central administrative and support facility located at

the County Courthouse in Visalia. The distribution system of the central sup-

port facility follows the historical tradition of development when the county

maintained many small branch/station libraries (often in homes or places of

business). These small branch facilities provided only limited and rotating

collections under the casual supervision of a branch custodian whose part-

time work was the simple, physical custody of the books and the maintenance

of a record of circulation. Some branches, principally those in larger popu-

lation centers, did provide regularly employed staff and were identified as

reading rooms.

Reading rooms owed their origin to library societies preceding county library

formation or to such stimulus as local clubs and the Carnegie Building gifts.

These one room branches had regular hours, larger collections and added staff

as circulation warranted. Even for these branches, however, the Central

Administrative facility provided all major support activities not directly

connected with simple registration or circulation. Support activities in-

cluded: cataloging and stock record maintenance, book selection, assignment

of materials, central registration and files, inventory control, mending and

binding, reference services, children's programming, interlibrary loan, filling

of special requests for material not in the small branch collections, shipment
and rotation of collections, provision of supplies, and such general adminis-
trative matters as personnel and payroll, budget, policy determination, staff
training, branch inspections, and the like.

For many years library service was provided to the county schools. In addition,
a teacher's professional library was maintained. The Central Library included
a staff expressly assigned to servicing the schools. In later years the school
program was transferred entirely to the County School Department and is currently
separately administered.

Because of the untrained and often "side-line" character of most branch attend-
ants, (the library collection and job sometimes being transferred along with
the home or business in which it was located), the major thrust of the system
remained highly centralized, with the major burden of work performed by the
staff at the central facility. Through the early period many small stations
were started and abandoned as shifts in communities or reading interest took
place. The "Reading Room" branches remained more stable, but hardly less
dependent. By 1930, the county had 10 "Reading Room" branches and 32 station
libraries, some of the stations having as few as 50 books on deposit with a
volunteer custodian. All staff reported directly to the County Librarian, who
was assisted at the central facility by three other professional staff and
five clerical employees (not including employees in the school program). The
library at that time served a county population (not including the three cities
of Visalia, Tulare and Porterville, which, even when affiliated with the county,
maintained separate independent libraries and complete staff complements), of
58,669 persons and had 14,736 registered borrowers. From the thirties on

(as county population grew) there was a gradual trend toward elimination of deposit stations, substituting branch libraries with separate quarters in their place. These quarters were leased or rented for library purposes. By 1970, all but three of the twenty-seven surviving distributing agencies of the system were in their own quarters reserved for the single purpose of library use. Despite the building shift, however, the dependency of the early years continued with major branch functions confined to the simple clerical maintenance tasks of record keeping. More difficult tasks such as research or general informational requests were transmitted to the central staff for secondary level service by means of special requests. With organization remaining a purely geographical matter of branches being located around the central service hub, with all staffs still reporting to the one County Librarian, there has been little genuine change in organizational structure over the forty year period from 1930. This format has thus been retained, despite branch growth and locations in more permanent quarters. By 1970, the county had grown by 231% over the 1930 population, with library registration increasing to 37,007 persons. During this same period the supportive staff had increased by only one professional staff member, (125% of the 1930 level) and six clerical employees (183% of the 1930 level), or an overall total of seven (189% of the 1930 level).

Currently the absence of middle management structure and staff to whom routine line operational areas can be delegated (without extensive supervision and participation in the work process itself) is seen as a major administrative defect of the library organization and a distinct handicap to the attainment of any system program genuinely geared to meeting current needs of the Tulare County citizens.

In most library systems of the size of Tulare County, middle management staff
is comprised of staff supervisors, department heads, and professional branch
librarians whose duties may include participation in book selection, special
task assignments, supervision of smaller satellite units, and general involve-
ment in program direction. Distribution of middle management staff throughout
the system provides a measure of public contact and feedback not found in the
present Tulare County System and, in addition, provides lead direction in the
branch operations.

A December 1971 survey of 39 libraries in California showed an average of five
professional library classifications for libraries serving over 100,000 popu-
lation. Tulare County had only two such classifications until as recently as
March, 1972, when the Assistant County Librarian was added.

In the 1971-72 library budget presentation, some effort was made to effect
changes which could have led to the development of an improved middle manage-
ment structure. Suggested in this budget were the Assistant County Librarian
position, a Branch Coordinator (Librarian IV), and a beginning level position
(Librarian I) for the growing Central Library public service function. Both
the Assistant and Branch Coordinator positions were designed to reduce the
present over extended span of control and to meet work load demands which either
currently overburden the department head or are simply not performed. Also sug-
gested in this budget was a provision for some modification of the present
structure classification now used for all professional staff area specialists
(Librarian) with assignment of this responsibility to a professional Librarian
classification. Although current staff do not meet the demands of the advanced

Librarian (III) responsibility it would be normally appropriate to require both increased preparation and experience of the staff expected to assume strong leadership in program areas and in the training of subordinate staff to effectively conduct age-level and area service activities. Large libraries (with service areas with over 100,000 population) normally use the Librarian I and II classifications as branch librarians or as subordinates to higher level staff members in the Central department where guidance from the more experienced employees can be provided to them.
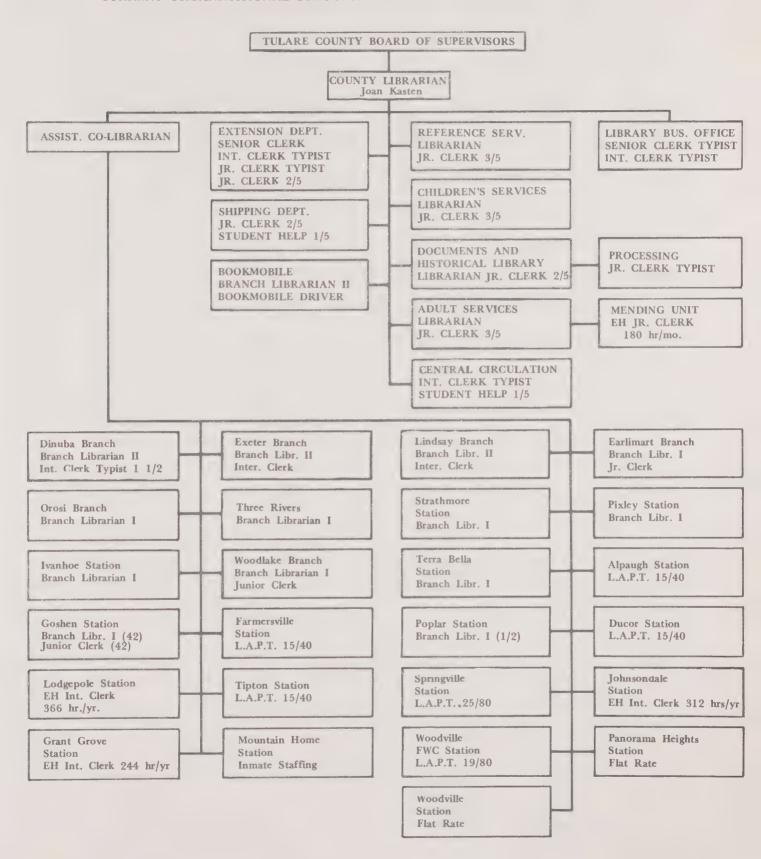
The physical limitations of the present distribution facilities currently hampers development of a program employing higher level professional staff for the branch libraries. Solutions to this problem would include consolidation of branch libraries (providing fewer but better equipped and larger libraries); general staff upgrading; establishment of regional libraries (as suggested in the discussion of administrative direction) with appropriate staff assignment to include supervision of small satellite branches within an area; and, coordination or consolidation of the county with the library systems of the cities. This would provide use of larger independent city agencies and staff who could easily be incorporated into the library management structure.

Retention of the Central support service and multiple small branch organization which exists currently might suggest upgrading of present staff positions with provision for assistants to the Children's Supervisor, et al, so that time might be available for more direct management involvement and also so that staff with more suitable training and experience might be available to contribute effectively as professionals.

Another possibility within the current structure might be the use of middle management working out of the Central facility but assigned to branch supervisory responsibilities on an area basis (from 3-4 employees) each responsible for six to eight branch operations. This solution, however, would not be as effective overall as a regional or city-based staff with area responsibilities. Under this approach fewer staff would be involved, feedback from public contact would be minimal (a problem to professional staff now who do not have direct public contact), and the library's public would have no direct person-to-person benefit from expanded professional staffing. This would continue the indirect secondary level (mail-order) service which is a significant defect of current branch operations throughout this system.

General changes relative to some solution of the organizational pattern (mainly a geographical distribution) found at present are closely tied in to the problems of identifying an appropriate physical distribution system. Assuming that management staff on the professional level is indeed required (and both the standards and the experience pattern of other California libraries would so indicate) the two principal alternatives are: (1) a build-up of support staff at the Central facility, (2) development of a system incorporating strong, self-contained units with middle management staff serving as lead supervision in the major branches of the entire system. The advantages for direct public service would be greater from the second alternative. However, the second alternative relies on the development of the changes in administration and in the physical facilities system discussed in other sections of this report.

The current organizational structure, as shown by the 1971-72 chart indicates the general geographical character of organization found in the County Library at the present time. Prior to this current fiscal year the County Librarian

CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY LIBRARIAN
Joan Kasten

ASSIST. CO-LIBRARIAN

EXTENSION DEPT.
SENIOR CLERK
INT. CLERK TYPIST
JR. CLERK TYPIST
JR. CLERK 2/5

REFERENCE SERV.
LIBRARIAN
JR. CLERK 3/5

LIBRARY BUS. OFFICE
SENIOR CLERK TYPIST
INT. CLERK TYPIST

SHIPPING DEPT.
JR. CLERK 2/5
STUDENT HELP 1/5

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
LIBRARIAN
JR. CLERK 3/5

BOOKMOBILE
BRANCH LIBRARIAN II
BOOKMOBILE DRIVER

DOCUMENTS AND
HISTORICAL LIBRARY
LIBRARIAN JR. CLERK 2/5

PROCESSING
JR. CLERK TYPIST

ADULT SERVICES
LIBRARIAN
JR. CLERK 3/5

MENDING UNIT
EH JR. CLERK
180 hr/mo.

CENTRAL CIRCULATION
INT. CLERK TYPIST
STUDENT HELP 1/5

Dinuba Branch
Branch Librarian II
Int. Clerk Typist 1 1/2

Exeter Branch
Branch Libr. II
Inter. Clerk

Lindsay Branch
Branch Libr. II
Inter. Clerk

Earlimart Branch
Branch Libr. I
Jr. Clerk

Orosi Branch
Branch Librarian I

Three Rivers
Branch Librarian I

Strathmore
Station
Branch Libr. I

Pixley Station
Branch Libr. I

Ivanhoe Station
Branch Librarian I

Woodlake Branch
Branch Librarian I
Junior Clerk

Terra Bella
Station
Branch Libr. I

Alpaugh Station
L.A.P.T. 15/40

Goshen Station
Branch Libr. I (42)
Junior Clerk (42)

Farmersville
Station
L.A.P.T. 15/40

Poplar Station
Branch Libr. I (1/2)

Ducor Station
L.A.P.T. 15/40

Lodgepole Station
EH Int. Clerk
366 hr./yr.

Tipton Station
L.A.P.T. 15/40

Springville
Station
L.A.P.T. 25/80

Johnsondale
Station
EH Int. Clerk 312 hrs/yr

Grant Grove
Station
EH Int. Clerk 244 hr/yr

Mountain Home
Station
Inmate Staffing

Woodville
FWC Station
L.A.P.T. 19/80

Panorama Heights
Station
Flat Rate

Woodville
Station
Flat Rate

Prepared by Tulare County Planning Department

supervised all divisions, including those at the Central Library and all the
branches. In March 1972, when an Assistant County Librarian was appointed,
a division of these responsibilities was made, assigning the branch supervision
to the new position while retaining all Central functions under the supervision
of the County Librarian. In both cases, as the chart clearly suggests, the
scope of supervision remains far too great for effective control, particularly
in view of the fact that the large majority of staff thus supervised have no
significant educational or job preparation for library work. In addition,
the professional level responsibilities continue to fall far too heavily on
the few persons available to handle the more sophisticated and demanding areas
of the work load. The time required for current administration and future
planning are routinely sacrificed to the ongoing and increasing pressure of
daily public service. Those two positions are charged with far too extensive
management responsibilities, both in terms of staff supervision, and actual
multiplicity of various tasks to be accomplished.

INTERRELATIONSHIP OF PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES

The citizen and taxpayer often finds it difficult to understand the need for
a public library and a school library within the same community. The reason
for the misunderstanding is undoubtedly due to lack of understanding of the
purposes and operational methods of each. Both libraries supply books, both
supply books for children, both dip into the public purse. Why are both needed
or why should both not operate under the same roof and the same administration?
The following comparison table may help to explain the different purposes of
each type of library.

COMPARISON OF PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Categories	Public	School
Control:	Board of Supervisors, City Council	Board of Education, Principal
Clientele:	General Public, Special Users Groups	Student-Teachers
Location:	Accessible to busy public (shopping centers), near adequate transportation, parking. Street level entrance.	Centrally located in school building as close to classroom areas as possible.
Hours of Operation:	Convenience to public. Flexible. Nights, Weekends, Summer.	During school and sufficient time before and after.

Atmosphere:	Conspicuous – informal	Study assignments – formal classroom.
Contact:	Individual basis.	Class, teacher, pupil.
Choice of Selection:	Voluntary	Assigned
Material and Service:	Required for varying kinds of backgrounds, experiences and abilities.	Selected to meet curriculum needs of school by faculty, librarian and pupils.
Circulation:	To homes.	To classrooms and homes.
Staff:	General Librarian	Certified teacher and Librarian.
Funding:	General Library Tax	Federal and State taxation and School District General Education Tax.

In some situations, authorities are willing to leave library service in the schools to the public library. Where there is no school library, the public library gives to the school what service it can, as it does to any institution located in its area, sometimes at the cost of its proper public library service to the community as a whole. The result is usually a stop-gap service, provided through bookmobiles or substandard classroom collections.

In no way is this adequate for the needs of the modern school. This type of arrangement should continue only until the Board of Education assumes its responsibility for the development of school library service as a part of the instructional program. Few public libraries are financially able to do more, and few are the situations in which they have received supplementary funds for meeting even these school needs.

Joint use of facilities by school and public libraries have rarely been successful due to numerous reasons such as: divided allegiance on the part of the staff, differences in personnel requirements and provisions (education, vacations, pay, night work and the like). Where the public library has located on a school campus (e.g., Woodlake), adults distain from using the library during school hours and the location is rarely convenient for adults or for children not enrolled in the particular school. The immediate pressure for school service leads to a set-up which is predominantly a school library, though seldom a good one, while the very important service to adults is necessarily slighted. Rarely is the dual purpose of the library supported by the kind of financing necessary to carry out two roles.

Interrelationship Within Tulare County

Library service to the various county schools and school districts was officially separated from the County Free Public Library program in 1955. The responsibilities and supportive funds for this program were given to the County Schools Department Library currently included in the Educational Resources Center located in the County Courthouse in Visalia.

With this curtailment in the County Library scope of service, the public library program has been focused toward wide-ranging needs basic in person-to-

person service to all members of the community on an equal and individual basis. Unfortunately, however, even after this long period of separation, there appears to be considerable misunderstanding on the part of staff, public, and schools personnel that special provisions are, or should be made, to support curriculum needs, school projects, class assignments and requirements, and the like. To be succint, such special provisions are not the responsibility of the public library. The public library serves school personnel and students in the normal capacity of service to all, but only on an individual basis and within the normal range of materials representative of variant public interests reflected in the public library collection, which may at times coincide with curriculum oriented needs, or may not. No effort is made to duplicate materials, or to provide an added range or selection of materials to suit class needs, such provision being beyond both the public library financial resources and responsibility. It is a responsibility which should be assumed by the school.

The public library makes loans of materials only to individuals and assume that each borrower has full personal responsibility for all materials taken under his charge and that such materials will be used by him, not co-signed to another user. There are no special privileges for teachers and no loan materials as general collections for classroom use.

The school class visit program which the county library presently maintains is designed primarily to provide library service to children who could not otherwise reach public library resources because of parental indifference, lack of transportation, rural isolation, etc. Although such activity must of its nature coordinate with the school program, the county library assumes a primary service to the individual child and his interests inside and out-

side the school environment, rather than solely within the range of his class requirements. The normal rules and regulations of the county library apply to the child on such classroom visits. It is assumed that the student's daily basic educational media needs will be provided for him as an integral part of the school program and that his teacher will make his first effort to assure availability of such materials through proper school channels, including his local school, his school district, and the County Schools Department contractual services.

The County Educational Resource Center And the County's Bookmobile

There are forty-three separate school districts within Tulare County. Some schools are financially able to support individual libraries; however, numerous schools are financially unable to do so and are required by the State to either contract for library service with the County Educational Resource Center, or to spend $100.00 per year from the school budget on each group of thirty-five students. The cost of such a contract is $150.00 per year for library supplemental book service for each group of thirty-five students enrolled in the school. There is also a charge of $150.00 per year per school for the Audio-Visual Film Service for any school wishing to contract for this additional service. Most schools subscribe to the Audio-Visual Service, while twenty-five schools and three school districts contract for the library supplemental book service. The Resource Center also serves as a professional library for teachers. Except for the $100.00 State requirement, the only other requirements for school libraries are those of the individual school district.

Under a contract for library supplemental book service, each class of thirty-
five students receives an initial one hundred books. This basic book stock
is increased and changed each year. The Resource Center has a current book
stock with an average of seven books per student. This is considerably below
the American Library Association Standard of twenty books per student.

The current book stock consists of 44,960 books for enrichment reading (one-
fourth of which are paperbacks), 35,030 supplemental textbooks (mathematics,
health and social studies), and a 5,652 book, professional teacher's library.
The Resource Center also has 3,000 educational films and 6,500 art prints.
Approximately 6,000 books are located in the Resource Center for back-up
purposes.

The Resource Center's funds are obtained from the State and Federal Govern-
ments in addition to revenue obtained from the schools contracts. There is a
need for an additional stock of recreational reading material as well as an
increase in the basic school book stock.

It is the State of California's, as well as the individual school district's
responsibility to supply this total library requirement; however, the County
Library System has used general library resources to help lessen school
library deficiencies through the use of the Bookmobile. There are twelve
schools and two school districts being served by both the Bookmobile and the
Resource Center.

The Bookmobile allots 48% of its service time during the school term and 21%
of its summer service time to library service for these schools. Considering
that the Bookmobile was in the repair shop 16% of its useable time last year,

there is little time left to service the general public who pay for the
Bookmobile operation. Because of this school orientation, the Bookmobile
book stock reflects a predominance of children's books, thus limiting adult
patronage.

Recommendations:

1. The Bookmobile should be re-scheduled for general public use
    within communities.

2. A new Bookmobile should replace the existing thirteen year old
    model which has over 120,000 miles of service.

3. Any investigation regarding new central library facilities
    should include the consideration of space for the Educational
    Resource Center as well as the unification of certain functions
    such as the transporting of books.

Chapter 3

Planning Factors

CHAPTER III

PLANNING FACTORS

HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT PATTERN

In the past, settlement in Tulare County, with its dominant agricultural

orientation, tended to occur in clusters at approximately five mile intervals

along major transportation routes (a comfortable distance -- some twenty to

thirty minutes by horse and buggy). Twenty to thirty minutes today still

seems an acceptable time separation for inter-community travel, but trans-

portation improvements have stretched the equivalent travel distance to

fifteen to thirty miles, rendering these five mile settlement nodes

twentieth century anachronisms.

Settlement nodes, at more broadly spaced intervals have prospered and grown,

while others within the interstices have declined and withered under dif-

fering circumstances and for varied reasons.

Growth Projections -- A basis for Planning Assumptions

The following findings and assumptions served as background data and found-

ations for this study.

1. The population of Tulare County is expected to reach approx-
    imately 227,000 by 1980 and 272,000 by 1990, based on assumptions
    that the county will experience a net in-migration of population
    and higher levels of non-agricultural employment than has occur-
    red over the past 20 years.

2. By 1990, the cities and their urban areas will account for
    approximately 80 percent of the county population, as compared
    to 62 percent in 1970.

3. By 1990, the rural farm population will have declined to the
    point where it comprises only slightly more than 5 percent of
    the total county population, as compared to approximately 20
    percent in 1970.

4. By 1990, the aggregate population of unincorporated communities
    will represent approximately 14 percent of the county population,
    as compared to 17 percent in 1970. However, fifteen of the un-
    incorporated communities in the county are expected to lose
    population, four are expected to remain firly stable, and eighteen
    are expected to gain in population.

5. County-wide employment and population projections are based on
    the assumption that relatively large-scale development will
    take place at Mineral King and at other locations appropriate
    for recreation uses within the Kaweah and Tule River watersheds.

6. Primary factors which may serve to influence retention of
    population in all rural (including non-viable) communities

are: (1) lack of employment opportunities and adequate and acceptable low-income housing in the larger communities, (2) lack of supply of standard housing forcing retention of sub-standard housing for in-migratory farm labor families, (3) inability to concentrate a reasonable variety of public services in selected communities, (4) inability to develop an effective action program aimed at family relocation to those communities providing a broader range of public and private services.

7. Cities and unincorporated communities which are expected to require additional land for urban expansion include: Exeter, Farmersville, Lindsay, Woodlake, Camp Nelson, Cutler-Orosi, Earlimart, Goshen, Pixley, Springville, and Three Rivers. Urban expansion within Three Rivers, however, may be negligible if current developmental obstacles relative to water quality and supply in the Three Rivers basin are not overcome.

8. Primary factors which should contribute toward a loss of population in the fifteen unincorporated communities forecasted to lose population are: (1) a general decline in agricultural employment, (2) employment opportunities, improved housing, and a broad range of public services and facilities available in larger communities, (3) gradual deterioration of the urban environment in certain unincorporated communities, (4) the lack of a healthy and substantial economic base which is a pre-requisite to adequate financing, maintenance and operation of water, sewer and other public facilities.

9. Unincorporated communities which are expected to lose popu-
lation because of factors mentioned above include: Allens-
worth, Alpaugh, Delft Colony, East Orosi, Lindcove, Monson,
Plainview, Poplar-Cotton Center, Seville, Sultana, Teviston,
Tooleville, Tonyville, Tract No. 51 and Waukena.

Non-viable Communities

The majority of the communities within Tulare County are severely limited in
their ability to generate sufficient public revenue to fund improvements in
services and facilities. Further, the disparity between local funding capacity
and capital project costs will not be sufficiently reduced by assistance
through federal and state grants to assure economic feasibility of future pro-
jects. The funding of public facilities in some communities would so over-
burden residents as to threaten community economic stability, even though the
community was only responsible for system operation and maintenance costs,
and a minor share of original capital costs.

When viewed in a more comprehensive context, the socio/economic and environ-
mental limitations which exist in many communities render questionable the
provision of parity in corresponding housing, health care, police and fire
protection, employment, education, library service and other cultural oppor-
tunities. Also, other areas of human need may never be achieved relative
to the opportunities and service levels found in the larger communities of
the county.

Communities which need to be carefully studied from these aspects of viability
include Ducor, Elderwood, Lindcove, Monson, Waukena, Yettem, Allensworth,

Alpaugh, Delft Colony, Seville, Sultana, Teviston and Tract 51. These settlements have common problems of low service levels, high incidence of sub-standard housing and low economic resource base.

Public Service Planning

A. Growth Centers

It is difficult, given the existing resources, for semi-rural counties to react to the consequences of the population shift from rural areas to urban centers. The existing, rural oriented library system has not been able to adapt to the fluid population growth patterns and the resultant need for higher levels of library services in the intensely developing areas. This problem is not unique to library operations alone, but is influencing all forms and levels of governmental and private investments because of a historical resistance to anticipatory public facilities planning.

Instead of provision of volunteer services, complexities of modern civilization have forced higher levels of professional services at ever rising costs. County government is held responsible for provision of these services everywhere except in incorporated cities. The county and cities faced with increasing costs and limited resources must attempt to use their financial resources in the most efficient way possible. Therefore, there is a need to evolve a "growth centers approach" to county-wide resource management and distribution. The growth

centers concept involves the concentration of public resources
to create, sustain and/or arrest deterioration within viable
communities. Growth centers should be identified within
every sub-area of the county in order to minimize future mi-
gration problems.

In addition, reinforcing or expanding certain communities may
have the effect of attracting additional private investments
and may serve to relieve future growth pressures in the larger
communities.

B. Public Service Center

All viable communities should be supported by all available
federal, state and county resources. However, every
community does not require or cannot justify the establishment
of all types of public service facilities. Communities
strategically located in a county-wide pattern conducive to
efficient area coverage, should act as distribution centers
for certain major public service facilities.

These carefully selected communities should be designated
as public service centers and would act as the sub-distribution
center for such public services as fire, police, health, in-
spections, and library operations, etc.

If such a system were designed, the joint use and operation of
facilities by county agencies could be planned and budgeted

in advance. The possibilities for cost savings, efficiency of operation, coordination and cooperation between public agencies is worthy of consideration.

Even if certain types of public facilities such as library deposit stations are left to function at low efficiency and level of service in all the small viable communities, a library facility with sufficient additional resources could be located in the public service centers, within the general area of the community in which the deposit station is located. This concept would ensure the availability of higher levels of library service in all areas of the county, without the necessity of traveling to one major urban center.

Public service centers should not be selected solely on the locational criteria of one segment of the public service element of the General Plan, such as the library system. It is necessary to coordinate the service area of each service element, so that a pattern of overlapping, non-related service areas does not develop in the same manner as in many large cities. In the future, because of limited funding sources, it will be mandatory to obtain joint use of all resources regardless of departmental control, if the problems of government are to be solved. In order to develop the motivating force to obtain the necessary coordination, the interrelation of mutual problems must be understood.

C. Recommendations

1. It is necessary to develop an urban growth strategy geared
    to the orderly and efficient provision of services. Magni-
    tude, direction and quality of growth must be influenced
    and channeled through the extension or retardation of public
    facility systems to certain areas.

2. A system of priorities be developed which would concentrate
    library service within communities where the service is
    feasible and likely to be a positive force for continued
    development.

3. Public resource commitments to communities with little or
    no authentic future should be carefully examined before
    final action is initiated. These communities would, as a
    consequence of withholding major public facilities, enter
    a process of long term, natural decline as residents depart
    for improved opportunities in nearby communities.

Chapter 4

Existing Conditions
Analysis and Standards

CHAPTER IV

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS

LIBRARY CLASSIFICATIONS

No single size or type of library facility will serve in an efficient manner

all of the various library patrons. Service levels and distribution will

vary in relationship to numerous factors; such as service area population

and characteristics, book volume, floor area, personnel, hours of operation

and annual circulation, etc.; therefore, it is practical to place libraries

with variable functions into different classifications.

In Tulare County, the libraries can be classified as follows:

    Class A - Regional Library: County-wide service, resource,

                    reference and distribution center.

    Class B - Area Service Branch Libraries: Semi-regional level

                    of service and located within major

                    divisions of the county.

    Class C - Community Branch Libraries: Predominately, local

                    activity centers for public involve-

                    ment in regular library service.

Class D – Station Branch Libraries: A Deposit Station that
consists of a reading room which
performs primarily recreational
circulation services.
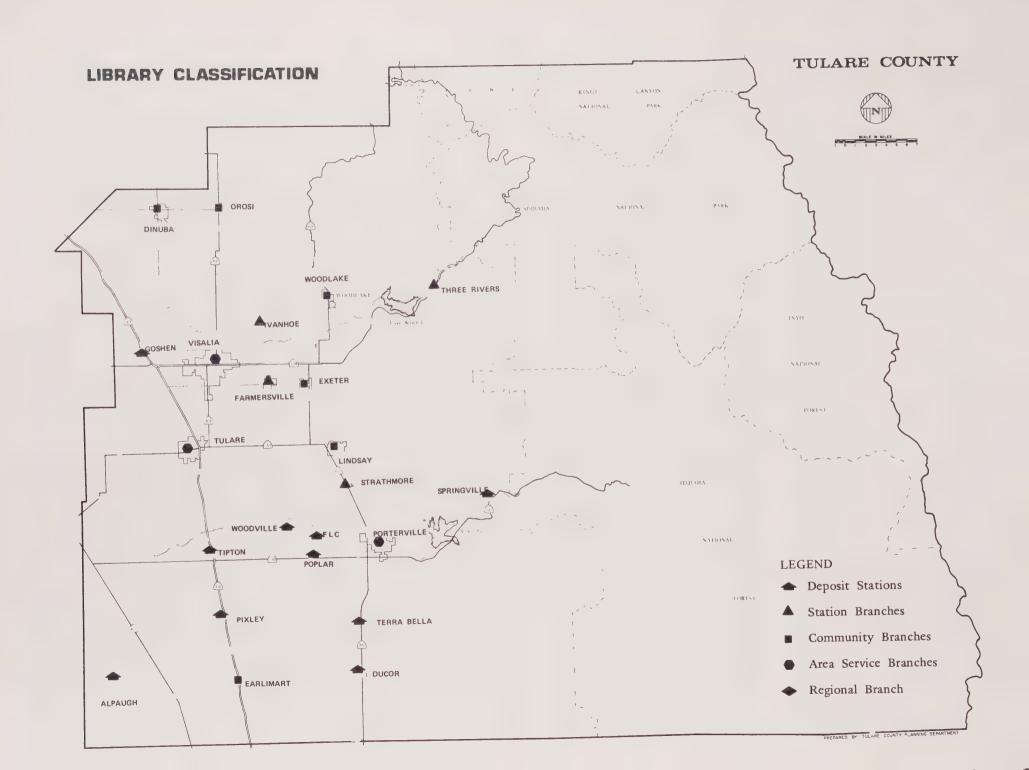
Class E – Deposit Stations: Withdrawal, limited reading, and
deposit drop facilities.
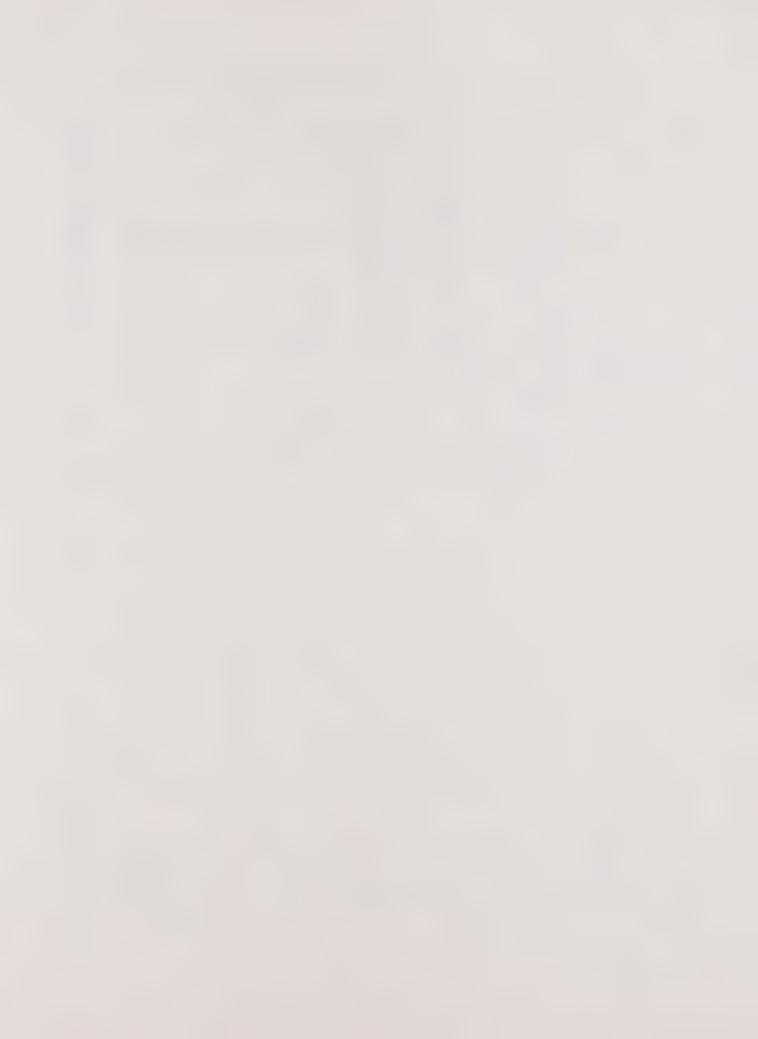
Class F – Mountain Stations: Special, limited library service
facilities located in recreational
areas.

The locations of the above classified libraries are shown on the map found
on the following page.

The classification of libraries is justified for the following reasons:

1. The size and distribution of population served by each level or
class of library is a basic factor used in establishing criteria
for physical facilities, book stock, ancillary services and
personnel requirements. User density and distribution determines
the service area or radius required to serve them, and consequently,
determines the class or size of library facility.

2. Distribution of resources based on measurable factors of need
encourages equitable and uniform support for each library branch
according to its classification.

SCALE IN MILES

OROSI

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN

VISALIA

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

FLC

PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

DUCOR

EARLIMART

ALPAUGH

LEGEND

◆ Deposit Stations

▲ Station Branches

■ Community Branches

⬡ Area Service Branches

◆ Regional Branch

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

LIBRARY STANDARDS *

Two-thirds of the libraries in the United States serve populations of under 10,000 persons; however, there have been few studies or standards developed for these libraries. The only available standards by which to measure small rural libraries are those developed by the Subcommittee on Standards of the American Library Association. These four standards are shown in the following Table. These national standards have been modified to reflect the local conditions of Tulare County. The major differences being a reduction to 7,000 book volumes and 2,000 square feet floor area for Class E - Deposit Stations. The floor area ratio for a Regional Library was reduced from .6 to .5 square feet per capita over the 15,000 minimum. The ratio of .67 square feet per capita was used for all other libraries above the 2,000 square feet minimum. In addition to these standards, two ratios and two measurement averages were used as criteria for the local libraries.

CIRCULATION PER YEAR: The minimum circulation can be obtained by multiplying the individual service area population (an area containing 85% of the possible library users as defined in the section discussing existing service areas) by 5.63. This 5.63 circulation rate represents the average per capita annual circulation rate for 1970-71 of all libraries within California (source is the 1971 News Notes of California Libraries. Published 4/72)

CIRCULATION PER HOUR: The standard of ten books per hour per staff member was used as the demarcation between an efficient and inefficient operation.

* A.L.A. Standards for small public independent libraries.

COST OF CIRCULATING ONE BOOK ONE TIME: A very useful measurement of cost

performance is the tax dollar spent to circulate a single book (total library

cost divided by total circulation). On a statewide basis, the average cost

of circulating a single book is approximately $1.00 for library systems

serving over 100,000 persons. For a library system such as that of Tulare

County, the cost may be considerably more due primarily to the additional costs

associated with book distribution and system administration spread over a

larger and less densely populated area.

HOURLY OPERATING COST: This is the total cost of operating a library, divided

by the total number of hours which the library operates per year. This is not

a very meaningful guideline because the cost will vary considerably between

large and small libraries. Libraries which are very active will have high

hourly costs but still may be very efficient in the value of service given

per tax dollar taken; however, the average hourly cost per class of library

has been included as an indicator of a library which may deviate significantly

from the mean for both hourly cost and cost per book circulated. The hourly

cost per class of library is shown on the General Comparison Table found

in the Appendix.

An analysis and comparison of the county-wide library system to all of the

above standards will be found in various sections of this report. The

comparisons of the individual libraries also, will be found on the "General

Comparison of Key Factor's Chart", and in the discussion of the individual

libraries contained in a separate report entitled "Individual Library

Descriptions".

LIBRARY CLASSIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

	CLASS OF LIBRARY	Minimum Book Volume	Minimum Floor Area (Sq. Ft.)	Number of Qualified Professional Staff	Range of Minimum Hours Open to Public Per Week
A	REGIONAL	50,000+ [1]	15,000+	7+	60+
B	AREA SERVICE BRANCH	50,000	15,000	7	60+
C	COMMUNITY BRANCH	20,000	7,000	5	45-60
D	STATION BRANCH	10,000	2,500	1	15-30
E	DEPOSIT STATION	7,000 [2]	2,000 [3]	1	15
F	MOUNTAIN STATION	NO STANDARD	NO STANDARD	NO STANDARD	NO STANDARD

Source: American Library Association, 1962

1. 2 books per capita over 25,000 population.
2. For Tulare County, this report recommends that the Minimum Book Volume for Class E be lowered to 7,000 books.
3. It is also recommended that the Minimum Floor Area for Class E be lowered to 2,000 sq. ft.
4. For Tulare County, a floor area ratio of .5 sq. ft. per capita was used for a Regional Library (25,000 pop. or above) and .67 sq. ft. per capita was used for all other libraries (25,000 pop. or below) maintaining a 2,000 sq. ft. minimum.

PHYSICAL FACTORS INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

The major objective of the on-site observation phase of the study was to
inventory the physical characteristics of each library. The actual field
inspection was carried out during the month of June, 1971.   During
April 1972, each library was again inspected and the original evaluation was
updated.

The only Table in this Section is found on the following page, listing the
physical data which were collected and is illustrative of the depth of detail
of this study.

After completion of the field survey, the next step was to perform a compar-
ative analysis of the conditions of all the libraries in the county. In order
to facilitate the compiling of the data, a simple point rating system was
devised. Under this system a numerical value was assigned for each category
of information. The point rating system which was used is described as
follows:

Points		Condition
2	=	If the condition was good.
1	=	If the condition was fair.
0	=	If the condition was poor.

For example, if a library has a drinking fountain in good condition, the cate-
gory would be rated a numerical value of 2. If the drinking fountain was in
poor condition, a one point value would be assigned. However, if the library
had no public drinking fountain, no points would be awarded.

At the outset of the study it was obvious that not all the categories illustrated in the following Table are necessarily of equal importance for an overall evaluation of physical condition. For example, the overall structural quality of the building is far more important from a health and safety aspect than the mere existance or absence of a drinking fountain. Therefore, it became necessary to devise a method to account for the relative importance of each category. Accordingly, each category's numerical rating (described above) was weighed in relation to its assumed level of importance. This was accomplished through a point-weighting process described as follows:

Multiplier	Assumed level of importance
1 - 3	Minor
4 - 6	Moderate
7 - 9	Major
10	Highest importance.

The multiplier-weighting process was performed for all the categories of physical condition shown on the following Table. The weighted point value totals for all the libraries were calculated and are indicated at the bottom of each column of the Table. The libraries are ranked on the Table in order with the lowest rated libraries at the left side of the Table and the highest at the right.

The following sections contain a summary description and evaluation of each category shown on the Table on the previous page. The number in parenthesis following the name of the category is the multiplier unit assigned to that category.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF EXISTING LIBRARIES

CHARACTERISTICS	Woodville F.L.C.	Farmersville	Strathmore	Goshen	Orosi	Springville	Dinuba	Exeter	Pixley	Terra Bella	Ducor	Poplar	Ivanhoe	Central	Three Rivers	Alpaugh	Visalia	Lindsay	Woodlake	Tipton	Earlimart	Porterville	Tulare	Total possible points
No. years in community	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Site size						3	6	6		3	6		3		3	6	6	3		6	6	3	6	6
Shopping area proximity		2	2	2	2	4	2		2	4					4	4	2	2		2	2	2	2	4
Vehicular access	2	4	2	4	4	4	2		2	4		4		4	4	4	4	2	2		2	2	2	4
Location suitability		6	6	12	12	12	12	6	6	12		6		6	12	12	6	12	6		6	6	6	12
Building age	2	4		4		4			4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4
Exterior finish															3			3	3	3	3		3	6
Identification			3				3	3	3					3	3		3	6	3	3	6	6	6	6
Entrance	10	5	5	5		5			5	10	10	5	10		10	10	10	5	10	10	10	10	10	10
Building condition	10		10						20	10	20	20	20	20	10	10	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Floor space				5					5			5	5		5	5		5	5	5	5			10
Reading space					9		9	9	9	9		9	18	9	9	9	18	18	9	9	9	18	18	18
Outdoor reading area																	1							2
Storage area		5			5			5		5	5	5	5		5	10	5	5	5	10	10		5	10
Office work area														4	4		4	4	8			4	8	8
Meeting area																								14
Public rest rooms											9				9		18	18				18	18	18
Staff rest rooms		8		8		8			8	8	8		8			8	8			8	8	8	16	16
Furniture	5	5	10	10	5		5	10	10	5	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Misc. furniture	4	4	8	4	4	4	4	8	4	4	4			4	4	8	4	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Shelving		5	5	5		5			5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	10		5	10	10	5	10	10
Floors	4	8		4	4		4	8	8	4	8	8		8	4		4	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Heating		20	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	20	10	20	10	20	20	20	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Cooling			8			8	8	8			8	16	8	16	8	8	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Interior lighting					10				10	20			10	20	20	20	20		20	20	20	20	20	20
Drinking fountains					3		6										6	6			6	6	6	6
Delivery docks															3								6	6
Safety features					10						5	10					10					10	10	20
Landscaping			1		2		2	2	1	2	1		2	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Parking lot					6				12		12	12		12	6				12	12	6		12	12
Traffic: Pedestrian hindrance	10					10	10	10		5	10		10	10			5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10
Library expansion	10						10	10		5	10				10	10	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10
TOTAL	59	78	82	85	92	95	105	107	126	141	142	150	151	158	171	176	195	197	198	203	214	233	274	328
% of 328 Total possible points	18.0	23.8	25.0	25.9	28.0	29.0	32.0	32.6	38.4	43.0	43.3	45.7	46.0	48.2	52.1	53.7	59.5	60.1	60.4	61.9	65.2	71.0	83.5	

◄————————— POOR —————————►◄► ———FAIR———► GOOD ◄►

Number of years the community has had a library (1 - Multiplier)

This is not considered a particularly important element, yet it does signify
a possible long term community involvement with library services. The library
survey indicated that the communities in which branch libraries are presently
located have been receiving library services for at least 20 years.

Site size (3)

The determination of site size characteristics is a measure of the ability to:
(1) provide off-street parking; (2) provide landscaping; (3) expand the floor
space of the library if needed. Generally, the survey showed that the average
branch library site is not large enough to realistically provide the above-
mentioned amenities. Site size characteristics, however, were considered of
only moderate importance in the overall physical inventory evaluation.

Shopping area proximity (2)

One of the underlying assumptions of library location planning is that branch
facilities should be situated in proximity to shopping facilities. The belief
is that if accorded the possibility, shoppers will be more inclined to combine
shopping trips with library visits than would otherwise be the case. The
result will be the increased patronage of the library. In Tulare County, 19
of the branch facilities were found to be within 1/4 mile of a retail commer-
cial area although only 5 branches were actually located within a shopping
area. However, in the overall physical inventory analysis, shopping area
proximity was not considered as a major factor. In the later section of this
report on Existing Service Areas, we learn from the user surveys that the

existing relationship between shopping trips and library visits in Tulare
County is very weak.

Vehicular Access (2)

Another locational criteria of library planning is that library facilities
should have direct access to major streets. The reasoning is twofold: (1)
full-service libraries are significant traffic generators; and (2) convenient
vehicular accessibility may stimulate higher levels of patronage. The survey
demonstrated that at least eight of the branch libraries were mislocated in
this respect. In the evaluative phase, however, vehicular access was con-
sidered to be of only minor importance since the library user survey indicated
a high degree of pedestrian usage.

Location Suitability (6)

During the field survey, a judgment was made regarding overall location suit-
ability of the existing library facility. The evaluation consisted of the
following determinations for each branch library:

(1) Was the location easily accessible to the service areas?

(2) Is the site near to a major activity generator? (i.e., a
     Park, school or business area)

(3) Did the location stimulate usage?

The overall evaluation of location suitability indicated that most of the branch libraries meet acceptable minimum locational standards. However, four libraries were found to be so poorly located that the only way to stimulate greater usage would be to completely relocate the facility.

Building Age (2)

Building age was not considered a particularly important physical characteristic, although a knowledge of the age of a structure does provide an insight into the structural condition of the building. Seventeen of the twenty-four libraries inventoried are less than 20 years old, while only four of the libraries were older than 40 years.

Exterior Finish (3)

The evaluation of exterior finish consisted primarily of an analysis of the overall aesthetic appearance and a determination of the existence or absence of exterior artwork. Obviously, this is not a particularly important factor in overall structural evaluation. However, only a very few libraries in the county were found to have exterior artwork.

Identification (3)

Sign identification of libraries is generally considered poor on a county-wide basis. Twelve of the branches had no sign which was identifiable from the roadway, while plants and bushes obscured many of the identification signs which did exist.

Entrance (5)

Ground level entrances are generally considered most appropriate for library facilities especially when user characteristics show a high percentage of elderly people (see the section on Users Characteristics contained in the latter part of this report. The survey showed that most entrances were believed to be adequate although the older buildings (40 years plus) were found to have high stairway entrances.

Building Condition (10)

The structural condition was determined primarily through a subjective evaluation similar to the condition of structures survey technique used in the county-wide housing analysis. None of the libraries could be considered dilapidated, although many are in varying stages of deterioration. In general, however, most libraries may be considered of average overall condition.

Floor Space (5)

Lack of adequate floor space is considered one of the most serious deficiences of the County Library System. No branch library contained sufficient floor space to be given a "good" rating.

Reading Space (9)

The provision of adequate reading space for patrons was determined to be a highly important factor in attracting patronage. The number of tables and chairs, and the existence or absence of separate adult and childrens areas

were also noted and compared against the number of existing and potential patrons. Reading space was generally considered slightly less than adequate for all branches.

Outdoor Reading Area (1)

The existence or absence of an outdoor reading area was noted simply as an example of design limitation of libraries within the county. The existence of a well shaded outdoor reading area is considered a valuable adjunct to effective library operations in this area. Only the Visalia City Library has a small outdoor reading area.

Storage Area (5)

An important consideration in the design of Libraries is the retention of an adequate storage area for administrative supplies and transitory book storage. The provision of shelf space for these areas is also important. Generally speaking, the storage areas of most branch libraries are insufficient in relation to the need. Ideally, there should be a division of storage space which is required for book and office stock and maintenance equipment and supplies.

Office Work Space (4)

Employee working areas are also important elements of the design of libraries. The relationship of adequate work space to increased working efficiency is a proven absolute. Unfortunately, most of the county branches have extremely limited work space. However, working space assumes lesser importance in the

"one man" branch concept where it is more important to maintain surveillance of the public area.

Meeting Area (7)

Meeting areas are considered almost standard in modern library design and are a requirement if the library is to function as one of the activity centers for its communities. There are no meeting rooms in any of the county branches.

Public Rest Rooms (9)

The provision of public rest rooms is a fundamental element in the design of any facility which caters to the public. It is a true, yet unfortunate fact, that 16 of the libraries which were investigated have no such facilities. The majority of the existing facilities are limited or in poor physical con-. dition.

Staff Rest Rooms (8)

The provision of separate employee's rest rooms should be considered in the same sense that public rest rooms are fundamental elements of library design. Again, the survey indicated that Tulare County's Library System is quite substandard in this respect. A total of 10 libraries have no staff or public rest rooms at all. Of those having staff rest rooms, only two libraries had separate facilities for men and women.

Furniture (5)

The condition and adequacy of furniture (chairs and tables) was generally con-

sidered adequate for most of the Branch Libraries.

Miscellaneous Furniture (4)

The condition of miscellaneous furniture such as card catalogs, dictionary stand and display rack was also inventoried. As a general statement, the Branch Libraries were considered in relatively good condition within this category. Further surveys revealed a need for additional card catalogs and lounge furniture.

Shelving (5)

The condition and capacity of shelving was also noted in the survey. The investigators took special care to evaluate expansion capability. The average rating for all the Branch Libraries was listed as "fair" in terms of existing demand. However, the limited floor space found in almost all of the branches poses a serious problem relative to future expansion.

Floors (4)

The condition of flooring was tabulated according to safety standards and noise factors. The ideal condition for libraries would be to have carpeting. Floor conditions were generally rated as "above average" for most county branches.

Heating (10)

With the aid of the local librarian, the adequacy of the heating system of each library was inventoried. As a general statement, the heating system for

most county branches was determined to be adequate. Only two libraries, the Woodville F.L.C. Branch and Johnsondale, had no heating.

Cooling (8)

The evaluation of cooling systems, however, found that at least 14 libraries had inadequate cooling, or had no cooling at all. This category was also inventoried with the aid of the local librarian.

Interior lighting (10)

The condition of the interior lighting is considered an important influencing factor on patronage. Nine branches were determined to have insufficient interior lighting while the interior lighting of ten other branches was evaluated as "above standard".

Drinking Fountains (3)

The provision of one or more public drinking fountains within public buildings is a rather commonly accepted standard. The survey noted, however, that sixteen branches had no such facility.

Delivery Dock (3)

Only three libraries in the county were found to have a delivery dock for the reception of new books and supplies. The provision of such a facility is not considered mandatory in small, branch library design although it certainly can improve working conditions for staff. However, any library should be equipped with a receiving door which opens onto a work area.

Safety Features (10)

Safe library design should always consider the provision of two or more, properly identified, exterior doors. In the same sense, libraries should always be provided with working fire fighting equipment and, if possible, an overhead sprinkling system. The inventory, quite conclusively, found that the safety features of the county libraries are rated as "very poor".

Landscaping (1)

Exterior landscaping, if properly maintained, can be a positive factor influencing community pride in library facilities. As a general statement, the outside landscaping for the average branch library may be considered slightly below adequate.

Parking Lot (6)

Library facilities generate auto traffic much in the same sense as shopping facilities. Proper design, therefore, dictates the provision of off-street parking with safe ingress and egress. Sixteen libraries in the county have no such facilities.

Traffic: Pedestrian Hindrances (5)

If the ideal library site is one that is located near a major city street, then it follows that conflicts between pedestrian and auto traffic can and will occur. The survey noted the existence or absence of any safety features such as crosswalks or other traffic controls near the library.

Library Expansion (5)

If adequate floor space is a problem with the County Branches (see above),
then the opportunity for future expansion must be a consideration. The survey
showed that many of the branches have severe limitations to expansion.

Analysis and Conclusions

As indicated by the physical condition chart, fourteen county libraries were
rated as having poor physical conditions. This does not necessarily mean that
each of these libraries is dilapidated and, therefore, unsafe. What it does
mean is that there are very serious deficiencies in all of these libraries
that need prompt attention. The basic improvements needed are public rest-
rooms, expanded floor area, exterior repair and better identification, better
cooling equipment, new interior lighting, drinking fountains, and provision
of safety features.

Without question there are at least three publically owned library buildings
which are approaching dilipidated conditions. These include the county-
owned library at Orosi and the city owned buildings at Dinuba and Exeter.
Although no precise comparable costs are available, it is believed that the
long range costs of bringing these libraries up to minimum standard would
far exceed the cost of constructing a new facility.

The seven libraries which were classified as "fair" are generally in accept-
able physical condition. However, some improvements, on a limited scale,
are needed.

Only two libraries in the county were rated in "good" condition, both of which (Porterville and Tulare) are not part of the County System.

A basic deficiency common to all libraries in the county (including the cities) is a lack of adequate floor space. Thus, overcrowded conditions occur quite frequently in the high activity libraries.

LIBRARY USERS CHARACTERISTICS

Knowledge of the age composition of library users is extremely important in
the determination of future library locations, book stock, hours of operation,
etc. In Tulare County, young people below the age of twenty, comprised 50% of
those library users surveyed. However, this percentage did vary from 36% in
the summer to 67% in the fall. Senior Citizens over 65 years of age were con-
sistently low comparing an overall average of 5% of the total responses.

If the 7,423 survey respondents are classified into the three categories of
students (10-19 years), adults (20-64 years) and senior citizens (65+ years),
the percentage breakdowns are respectively: 50%, 45%, 5%.

Based on an age comparison of the summer and fall survey, the libraries can
be classified into groups of either predominately student or adult users.
A number of the libraries have the same group of users throughout the year
while other libraries show a change in percentage of use between groups for
the summer and fall surveys. The Table on the following page shows the
appropriate classifications.

Every community contains many students who study at the library because they can
not study at home. The communities containing relatively large proportions
of indegent or socially alienated groups are most likely to have large families,
and over-crowded housing conditions.

From the available data concerning library use by age group distribution,
staff draws the following conclusions:
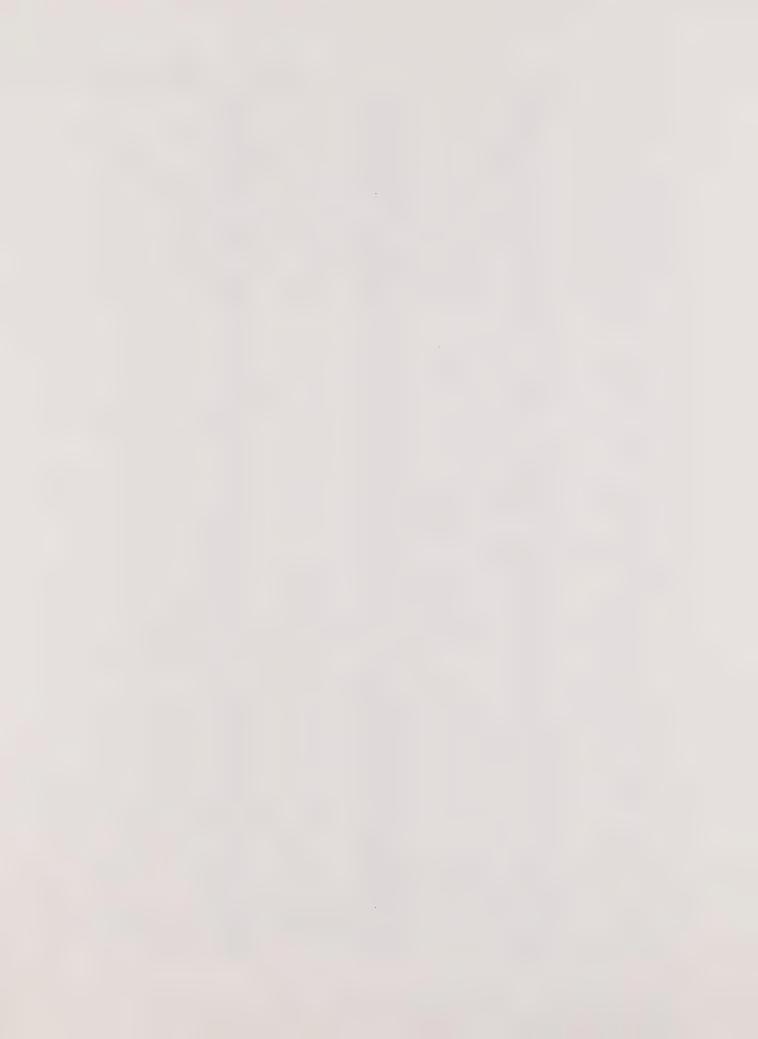
DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY USERS BY AGE GROUP
BY PERCENTAGE

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY				2ND SURVEY				TOTAL			
	Total Number of Respondents	% 10 - 19	% 20 - 64	% 65+	Total Number of Respondents	% 10 - 19	% 20 - 64	% 65+	Total Number of Respondents	% 10 - 19	% 20 - 64	% 65+
ALPAUGH	35	43	51	6	30	37	60	3	65	40	55	5
BOOKMOBILE	155	75	20	5	1,089	95	4	1	1,243	93	6	1
CENTRAL	272	15	83	2	101	26	70	4	373	18	80	2
DINUBA	354	46	49	5	225	57	38	5	579	50	45	5
DUCOR*	21	38	48	14	14	36	64	-	35	37	54	9
EARLIMART	163	68	29	3	398	86	13	1	561	81	17	2
EXETER	287	39	53	8	154	46	44	10	441	42	50	8
FARMERSVILLE*	27	44	56	-	13	46	54	-	40	45	55	-
GOSHEN*	8	75	25	-	8	100	-	-	16	88	12	-
GRANT GROVE*	20	30	70	-	9	-	89	11	29	21	776	3
IVANHOE	75	30	53	17	115	67	25	8	190	52	36	12
JOHNSONDALE*	7	14	86	-	7	-	100	-	14	7	93	-
LINDSAY	264	36	54	10	201	51	44	5	465	43	50	7
LODGEPOLE*	32	19	78	3	12	17	83	-	44	18	80	2
OROSI	38	50	42	8	47	47	49	4	85	48	46	6
PANORAMA HGTS.*	6	33	67	-	4	25	75	-	10	30	70	-
PIXLEY*	25	36	48	16	19	42	53	5	44	39	50	11
POPLAR*	30	23	74	3	14	43	57	-	44	30	68	2
PORTERVILLE	870	28	64	8	169	33	59	8	1,039	29	63	8
SPRINGVILLE*	27	22	56	22	8	12	38	50	35	20	51	29
STRATHMORE	155	53	40	7	196	58	35	7	351	56	37	7
TERRA BELLA	87	70	24	6	51	57	33	10	138	65	28	7
THREE RIVERS	114	12	68	20	47	28	59	13	161	17	65	18
TIPTON*	14	50	50	-	6	83	17	-	20	60	40	-
TULARE	361	29	65	6	176	29	60	11	537	29	63	8
VISALIA	570	29	69	2	71	17	79	4	641	27	70	3
WOODLAKE	108	61	37	2	74	63	37	-	182	62	37	1
WOODVILLE*	8	25	75	-	2	-	100	-	10	20	80	-
FLC*	17	70	24	6	15	53	47	-	32	63	34	3
TOTAL NO.	4,148	1,513	2,375	260	3,275	2,189	956	130	7,423	3,702	3,331	390
% OF TOTAL	100	36	57	7	100	67	29	4	100	50	45	5

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators.)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

1. Students comprise approximately one-half of the library users
    for the total library system.

2. Adults are the largest category of users in most of the large
    urban libraries.

3. A retirement community such as Three Rivers where high school
    students are bussed to Woodlake, has the largest percentage of
    its library users as adults or senior citizens.

4. The available data indicates a small use of the library
    system by senior citizens, 65 years of age and over. The two
    exceptions are Three Rivers 18%, and Ivanhoe 12%. This could
    suggest a need for the promotion of special programs of library
     ervices for senior citizens. Additional federal grants were
    given to the San Joaquin Valley Library System in 1971-72 for
    Senior Citizen use in 1972-73.

5. Certain libraries change from a predominance by one user group
    to that of another group between summer vacation and the fall
    school term.

Sex of Library Users

As can be seen from the Table on the following page, females use the Library
System more than males. The percentage is approximately double -- Females 62%;
Males 38%. The notable exception in this case is the County Central Library
where male use predominates -- Male 61%; Female 39%. Possible reasons for

this anomaly are: location of the central facility within an area of pro-
fessional male employment, and the job connected materials and reference
services offered by the Central Library. The conclusions formed from the
available data are:

1. Females predominate as library users because the current hours
    which the libraries are open to the public coincide with
    normal daytime working hours.

2. Females would tend to associate with the large number of
    children and students using the libraries and it would seem
    reasonable to assume that mothers are the ones who take
    their children to the library.

3. Appropriate programs to encourage library use by male users
    should be implemented.

Education Level of Library Users

Several surprising findings from the tabulation of data relating to level of
education of library users can be found on the Table on the next page. As
noted earlier in this report, student-age patrons comprise one-half of the
library users. Regardless, the educational level of users is approximately
equal for the three categories of grades 1-8 (36%), grades 9-12 (31%) and
the library user with some college (33%). However, when the surveys are re-
viewed separately, we find grades 9-12 remaining relatively constant between a
36% for the summer survey and a 25% for the fall survey. Seasonal variations

DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY USERS BY SEX

(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY			2ND SURVEY			TOTAL		
	Total number of respondents	% Male	% Female	Total number of respondents	% Male	% Female	Total number of respondents	% Male	% Female
ALPAUGH	35	34	66	30	23	77	65	29	71
BOOKMOBILE	152	30	70	1,079	46	54	1,231	44	56
CENTRAL	272	61	39	98	61	39	370	61	39
DINUBA	352	34	66	224	43	57	576	38	62
DUCOR *	21	29	71	14	29	71	35	29	71
EARLIMART	162	44	56	385	41	59	547	42	58
EXETER	286	32	68	152	35	65	438	33	67
FARMERSVILLE *	27	15	85	13	46	54	40	25	75
GOSHEN *	8	50	50	8	25	75	16	38	62
GRANT GROVE *	19	26	74	9	44	56	28	32	68
IVANHOE	71	20	80	110	37	63	181	30	70
JOHNSONDALE *	7	-	100	7	14	86	14	7	93
LINDSAY	266	31	69	197	32	68	463	31	69
LODGEPOLE *	32	25	75	12	42	58	44	29	71
OROSI	38	24	76	49	31	69	87	28	72
PANORAMA HGTS.*	6	50	50	4	25	75	10	40	60
PIXLEY *	25	16	84	19	37	63	44	25	75
POPLAR *	30	33	67	14	29	71	44	32	68
PORTERVILLE	870	36	64	167	36	64	1,037	35	65
SPRINGVILLE *	26	15	85	7	14	86	33	15	85
STRATHMORE	157	31	69	196	39	61	353	35	65
TERRA BELLA	87	29	71	51	31	69	138	30	70
THREE RIVERS	115	31	69	47	30	70	162	31	69
TIPTON *	14	-	100	4	25	75	18	6	94
TULARE	360	35	65	174	38	62	534	36	64
VISALIA	572	38	62	69	35	65	641	38	62
WOODLAKE	108	31	69	72	35	65	180	33	67
WOODVILLE *	8	50	50	2	-	100	10	60	40
FLC *	17	53	47	14	36	64	31	45	55
TOTAL NO.	4,143	1,468	2,675	3,227	1,320	1,907	7,370	2,788	4,582
% OF TOTAL	100	35	65	100	41	59	100	38	62

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe;

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971.

LIBRARY USERS BY EDUCATIONAL LEVEL
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY				2ND SURVEY				TOTAL			
	Total number of respondents	1st - 8th grade %	9th - 12th grade %	College %	Total number of respondents	1st - 8th grade %	9th - 12th grade %	College %	Total number of respondents	1st - 8th grade %	9th - 12th grade %	College %
ALPAUGH	35	37	49	14	30	30	53	17	65	34	51	15
BOOKMOBILE	151	65	24	11	1,087	95	2	3	1,238	91	5	4
CENTRAL	270	9	23	68	102	2	33	65	372	7	26	67
DINUBA	353	26	39	35	225	14	47	39	578	21	42	37
DUCOR*	21	48	28	24	14	63	29	8	35	40	37	23
EARLIMART	160	46	36	18	389	78	15	7	549	69	21	10
EXETER	286	24	36	40	153	20	52	28	439	23	41	36
FARMERSVILLE*	27	44	41	15	13	39	38	23	40	43	40	17
GOSHEN*	8	38	50	12	8	75	25	-	16	56	38	6
GRANT GROVE*	20	15	5	80	9	0	33	67	29	10	14	76
IVANHOE	75	25	52	23	116	61	25	14	191	47	36	17
JOHNSONDALE*	7	-	86	14	8	-	50	50	15	-	67	33
LINDSAY	266	20	46	34	199	22	48	30	465	21	47	32
LODGEPOLE*	32	12	19	69	12	-	67	33	44	9	32	59
OROSI	39	44	20	36	49	14	63	23	88	27	44	29
PANORAMA HGTS*	6	17	50	33	4	-	75	25	10	10	60	30
PIXLEY *	24	38	50	12	19	-	68	32	43	21	58	21
POPLAR *	30	30	47	23	14	35	28	37	44	32	41	27
PORTERVILLE	867	16	35	49	168	17	34	49	1,035	16	35	49
SPRINGVILLE*	26	19	39	42	6	-	50	50	32	16	40	44
STRATHMORE	154	35	44	21	198	45	35	20	352	41	39	20
TERRA BELLA	86	45	37	18	51	39	41	20	137	43	39	18
THREE RIVERS	115	10	26	64	47	26	19	55	162	14	24	62
TIPTON*	14	29	64	7	6	33	67	-	20	30	65	5
TULARE	355	15	41	44	178	9	42	49	533	13	41	46
VISALIA	567	12	32	56	71	7	21	72	638	12	31	57
WOODLAKE	106	49	29	22	74	38	35	27	180	44	32	24
WOODVILLE*	8	25	63	12	2	-	50	50	10	20	70	10
FLC*	17	70	18	12	15	53	47	-	32	62	32	6
TOTAL NO.	4,125	948	1,470	1,707	3,267	1,754	810	703	7,392	2,702	2,280	2,410
% OF TOTAL	100	23	36	41	100	54	25	21	100	36	31	33

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators.)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

occur between the categories of grades 1-8 and Some College. In the summer survey, the "Some College" group is predominate with a percentage of 41% to 21% for grades 1-8. In the fall survey, the ratio is reversed with grades 1-8 having the highest use with 54% as compared with the 21% for the "Some College" category. It is understandable that the Grades 1-8 category decreases when the students are not in school during the summer. However, the increase during the summer period of users with Some College would indicate that college students home from school do use the libraries. Investigating the data for the individual libraries, we find that the categories of users with Some College is especially significant in the larger, better equipped urban libraries.

The Tables on the following pages place individual libraries into five different groups by level of education of users. Library users with a level of education of grades 1-8 (elementary and Junior High School) comprise the largest percentage of users for both the summer and fall surveys in the Bookmobile, Earlimart and Woodlake.

The 9th through 12th grades (High School) group, are the highest percentage of users found in the libraries of Alpaugh, Dinuba, Exeter, Lindsay and Terra Bella. The libraries where the users with Some College is the primary group are Central, Porterville, Three Rivers and Visalia. Tulare has two primary groups (9-12 grades, Some College). Strathmore's two largest groups of users are grades 1-8 and 9-12. Ivanhoe's primary groups change from 9-12 grades and Some College in the summer, to 1-8 grades in the fall. Orosi changes from 1-8 grades and Some College in the summer to 9-12 grades in the fall. Increases and decreases within predominate users groups vary from summer to fall. The fact that the Some College group in Visalia and Tulare increases during the fall term would suggest a fall usage related to the College of the Sequoias.

In the summation of the data relating to the level of education of library users, we suggest the following conclusions:

1. When 50% of the library users are 19 years of age or younger, and when a number of adults are included in the level of education groups (grades 1-8, and 9-12), it is surprising that these two groups comprise only 67% of the total category of library users. The large percentage of users with Some College (33%) is very significant. Sufficient resources should be made available for this group for both educational advancement and cultural enrichment.

2. It is important that those libraries which experience a significant change in user clientele between the summer and fall should adjust their book stock and service accordingly.

However, seasonal adjustment will certainly increase the problems of staff required to facilitate the distribution of books as well as to the actual cost of movement. When the books come into the central library, they have to be handled six to eight times because there is not sufficient floor space to accommodate a proper circulation flow system. The problem also relates to a new policy of building a sufficient permanent book stock within each individual library, as opposed to the existing policy of moving books. Each library which has a significant student use at any period during the year, should have a permanent book collection adequate for their use.

LIBRARY USERS EDUCATIONAL LEVELS
BY PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Years Schooling Completed								
	1 - 8			9 - 12			Some College		
	1ST	2ND	TOTAL	1ST	2ND	TOTAL	1ST	2ND	TOTAL
BOOKMOBILE	65	95	91	24	2	5	11	3	4
EARLIMART	46	78	69	36	15	21	18	7	10
WOODLAKE	49	38	44	29	35	32	22	27	24
ALPAUGH	37	30	34	49	53	51	14	17	15
DINUBA	26	14	21	39	47	42	35	39	37
EXETER	24	20	23	36	52	41	40	28	36
LINDSAY	20	22	21	46	48	47	34	30	32
TERRA BELLA	45	39	43	37	41	39	18	20	18
CENTRAL	9	2	7	23	33	26	68	65	67
PORTERVILLE	16	17	16	35	34	35	49	49	49
THREE RIVERS	10	26	14	26	19	24	64	55	62
VISALIA	12	7	12	32	21	31	56	72	57
TULARE	14	10	13	41	42	41	44	49	46
STRATHMORE	35	45	41	44	35	39	21	20	20
IVANHOE	25	61	47	52	25	14	23	14	17
OROSI	44	14	27	20	63	44	36	23	29

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys August 1971, November 1971.

Indicates predominate educational level

COUNTY-WIDE TOTAL OF LIBRARY USERS - EDUCATIONAL LEVELS
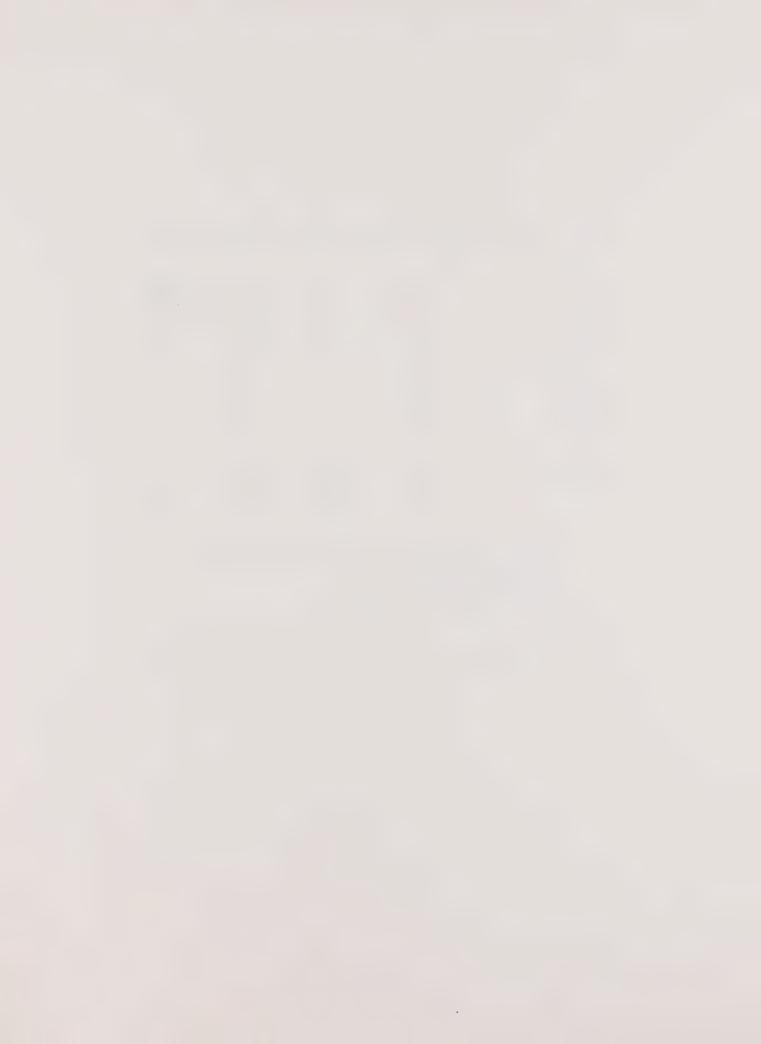
		1 - 8	9 - 12	Some College	Total No. of Answers
FIRST	No.	948	1470	1707	4125
SURVEY	%	23%	36%	41%	100%
SECOND	No.	1754	810	703	3267
SURVEY	%	54%	25%	21%	100%
TOTAL	No.	2702	2280	2410	7392
	%	36%	31%	33%	100%

Young students (1-8th grade) increase and predominate in Fall.

Some College predominate in Summer.

Grades 9-12 remain fairly constant.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

PREDOMINATE USE OF LIBRARIES

STUDENT LIBRARIES YEAR ROUND		ADULT LIBRARIES YEAR ROUND	
Bookmobile	93% students (6% adults)	Alpaugh	55% adults (40% students)
Earlimart	81% students (17% adults)	Central	80% adults (18% students)
Strathmore	56% students (37% adults)	Porterville	63% adults (29% students)
Terra Bella	65% students (28% adults)	Three Rivers	65% adults (17% students)
Woodlake	62% students (37% adults)	Tulare	63% adults (29% students)
		Visalia	70% adults (27% students)

LIBRARIES WHICH CHANGE PREDOMINATE USE BETWEEN SUMMER AND FALL

Student Usage (Fall)		Adult Usage (Summer)
Dinuba	57% students (38% adults)	49% adults (46% students)
Ivanhoe	67% students (25% adults)	53% adults (30% students)
Lindsay	51% students (44% adults)	54% adults (36% students)

LIBRARIES WITH APPROXIMATELY EQUAL USEAGE

Student Usage (Summer)		Adult Usage (Fall)
Orosi	50% student (42% adult)	49% adult (47% students)
Adult Library Summer		Even Distribution Fall
Exeter	53% adults (39% students)	44% adults - 46% students

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971.

<u>Employment of Library Users</u>

A library can be an important public resource for the improvement of work performance and job advancement. A library can be important in the motivation and training of those persons who cannot find employment. For the retired person, it can mean the enrichment of many lonely hours.

From the surveys as tabulated on the following pages, we find that the users of the public library system county-wide can be classified as 36% employed, 57% unemployed and 7% retired. The difference between the high percentage of employed users in the second survey can be explained by the fact that a large number of the student users hold summer jobs (62% of the fall users are students).

From the second survey alone, the high percentage of unemployed (78%) can be adjusted down to 62% students, 11% housewives, and only 5% unemployed. It may also be suggested that the actual number of hard-core unemployed who use the libraries is small. It is also understood that the hours which a library is open will affect the above relationship. Most libraries are open during the day when employed persons cannot use the facilities. The two libraries located in the urban, professional areas of Visalia (Central and City of Visalia) are the only two libraries where more than half of the users are employed.

As was found with library users 65+ years of age, the percentage of retired library users is low (5%). The percentage varies between 7% in the summer and 4% in the fall. Two libraries have a far greater percentage of retired users than do all the rest (Springville 29%, and Three Rivers 18%). Climate con-

ditions and a lower student use during the summer may have an effect on the higher use by retired persons in the summer. All the libraries shown in the Table have a higher use by retired persons in the summer except for Terra Bella and Woodlake.

From data collected on the first survey, we find the occupations of library users grouped as follows: Student 35%, Housewife 20%, and Professional 16%, for a total of 71%. Clerical-sales 9%, Skilled Worker 6% and Management 3% -- comprise only 18% of the total. The occupational group (Farm Workers) with the greatest need for library use was only 3%. Greater emphasis must be placed on an outreach program to reach this group.

In summary, the following observations are presented:

1. Few of the users can be classified as unemployed. Greater
   effort should be made to reach both the unemployed and
   farm workers groups.

2. Again, retired persons comprise only a very low percentage
   of library patrons. Additional contact and service is required
   for this group. Tulare County should obtain its full share of
   available monies from the San Joaquin Valley Library System.

3. Employment orientated library service should be expanded not
   only in the area where it is presently being used (Visalia),
   but also in other urban centers such as Dinuba and Porterville.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY PATRONS BY PERCENTAGE

	FIRST SURVEY			SECOND SURVEY			TOTAL		
	Employed	Unemployed	Retired	Employed	Unemployed	Retired	Employed	Unemployed	Retired
EARLIMART	47	50	3	9	90	1	19	79	2
ALPAUGH	26	66	8	10	90		18	77	5
IVANHOE	34	54	12	18	77	5	24	68	8
WOODLAKE	39	55	6	19	77	4	30	65	5
OROSI	33	43	24	18	74	8	25	60	15
TERRA BELLA	37	56	7	21	70	9	31	61	8
STRATHMORE	47	44	9	22	73	5	33	61	6
LINDSAY	47	42	11	24	70	6	37	55	8
DINUBA	52	40	8	25	71	4	41	53	6
TULARE	48	42	10	31	59	10	42	48	10
EXETER	51	39	10	28	65	7	43	48	9
PORTERVILLE	55	35	10	39	54	7	52	39	9
VISALIA	58	36	6	45	49	6	57	37	6
THREE RIVERS	42	27	31	29	60	11	39	36	25
CENTRAL	75	23	2	71	24	5	74	23	2
TOTAL NO. OF RESPONDENTS	1,882	1,400	324	518	1,423	103	2,400	2,823	621
% OF TOTAL	52%	39%	9%	25%	70%	5%	42%	50%	8%

The Bookmobile has not been included due to its predominate service to children and students. On the 1st Survey, part-time data was added to the employment data. On the 2nd Survey, the Housewife and Student data was added to the unemployment data. Libraries with insufficient responses were not included in the above table.

ORIGINAL SURVEY DATA TOTALS

		EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	PART TIME	HOUSEWIFE	STUDENT	RETIRED
lst Summary	No.	1,433	1,605	357	—	—	357
	%	36%	40%	14%	—	—	9%
2nd Summary	No.	606	143	—	364	2,202	121
	%	19%	4%	—	11%	62%	4%

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

LIBRARY USERS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY				2ND SURVEY				TOTAL			
	Total Number of Respondents	Employed %	Unemployed %	Retired %	Total Number of Respondents	Employed %	Unemployed %	Retired %	Total Number of Respondents	Employed %	Unemployed %	Retired %
ALPAUGH	35	26	66	8	30	10	90	-	65	18	77	5
BOOKMOBILE	139	21	73	6	1,081	4	95	1	1,220	6	92	2
CENTRAL	269	75	23	2	102	71	24	5	371	74	23	3
DINUBA	330	52	40	8	226	25	71	4	556	41	53	6
DUCOR*	17	29	47	24	13	23	69	8	30	27	57	16
EARLIMART	153	47	50	3	392	9	90	1	545	19	79	2
EXETER	275	51	39	10	151	28	65	7	426	43	48	9
FARMERSVILLE*	25	36	56	8	13	15	85	-	38	29	66	5
GOSHEN*	8	37	63	-	8	25	75	-	16	31	69	-
GRANT GROVE*	20	60	40	-	9	78	11	11	29	66	31	3
IVANHOE	73	34	54	12	115	18	77	5	188	24	68	8
JOHNSONDALE*	7	29	71	-	8	25	75	-	15	27	73	-
LINDSAY	256	47	42	11	200	24	70	6	456	37	55	8
LODGEPOLE*	29	52	41	7	12	50	50	-	41	51	44	5
OROSI	37	33	43	24	49	18	74	8	86	25	60	15
PANORAMA HGTS*	6	67	33	-	4	25	50	25	10	50	40	10
PIXLEY*	22	27	46	27	19	53	47	-	41	39	46	15
POPLAR*	27	56	37	7	14	36	64	-	41	49	46	5
PORTERVILLE	836	55	35	10	168	39	54	7	1,004	52	39	9
SPRINGVILLE*	26	31	42	27	8	-	50	50	34	24	44	32
STRATHMORE	150	47	44	9	197	22	73	5	347	33	61	6
TERRA BELLA	83	37	56	7	47	21	70	9	130	31	61	8
THREE RIVERS	113	42	27	31	45	29	60	11	158	39	36	25
TIPTON*	12	17	75	8	6	-	100	-	18	11	83	6
TULARE	345	48	42	10	176	31	59	10	521	42	48	10
VISALIA	550	58	36	6	71	45	49	6	621	57	37	6
WOODLAKE	101	39	55	6	75	19	77	4	176	30	65	5
WOODVILLE*	8	62	38	-	2	100	-	-	10	70	30	-
FLC*	14	50	43	7	15	20	80	-	29	35	62	3
TOTAL NO.	3,966	2,004	1,605	357	3,256	606	2,529	121	7,222	2,610	4,134	478
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	51	40	9	100	18	78	4	100	36	57	7

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

Language Spoken at Home

The Tulare County Public Library System purchases and distributes reading material and books in languages other than English. Therefore, it is necessary to know the magnitude and distribution of need for this service. There were 7,073 library users who answered the question – What language other than English is most often spoken at home? The tabulation on the following page shows that 75% answered none other than English. Spanish (16%) was the only other significant percentage. The percentage for the other languages were: Armenian 3%, Portuguese 1%, Philippine 1%, French 1%, Italian 1% and other 2%.

Individual libraries which have a higher percentage of users who have Spanish as a second language are: Earlimart, Orosi, Bookmobile, Woodlake, Terra Bella, Dinuba, Lindsay, Goshen and Woodville Camp.

In summary we find:

1. A lower percentage of other languages than would be expected from the overall ethnic composition of the county.

2. It is suggested that additional resources are required to meet the need for reading materials and services in languages other than English. This may be especially true of the Bookmobile which, due to its complete mobility serves several ethnic communities.

3. It is also strongly suggested that greater emphasis is required in the promotion of a program to reach the large number of per-

sons speaking languages other than English who are not now

using the Library System.

LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH SPOKEN AT HOME
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY				2ND SURVEY				TOTAL			
	Total Number of Respondents	Spanish %	Other %	None %	Total Number of Respondents	Spanish %	Other %	None %	Total Number of Respondents	Spanish %	Other %	None %
ALPAUGH	35	-	-	100	25	12	-	88	60	5	-	95
BOOKMOBILE	151	23	5	72	1,072	34	21	45	1,223	33	19	48
CENTRAL	271	7	4	89	88	11	17	72	359	8	7	85
DINUBA	356	7	3	90	190	25	21	54	546	13	9	78
DUCOR*	21	-	-	100	14	14	7	79	35	6	3	91
EARLIMART	163	39	5	56	376	48	25	27	539	45	19	36
EXETER	285	4	4	92	118	8	11	81	403	5	6	89
FARMERSVILLE*	26	-	-	100	12	-	17	83	38	-	5	95
GOSHEN*	8	38	-	62	8	63	-	37	16	50	-	50
GRANT GROVE*	20	-	5	95	8	13	-	87	28	6	6	88
IVANHOE	75	-	-	97	105	8	13	79	180	5	8	87
JOHNSONDALE*	7	-	14	86	8	13	-	87	15	7	7	86
LINDSAY	264	7	2	91	166	23	15	62	430	13	7	80
LODGEPOLE*	31	3	3	94	8	-	25	75	39	2	8	90
OROSI	39	10	16	74	46	48	15	37	85	31	15	54
PANORAMA HGTS*	6	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	100
PIXLEY*	24	-	-	100	16	6	13	81	40	2	5	93
POPLAR*	30	3	-	97	14	7	-	93	44	5	-	95
PORTERVILLE	850	4	2	94	128	9	16	75	978	5	4	91
SPRINGVILLE*	27	4	-	96	6	-	-	100	33	-	3	97
STRATHMORE	154	3	1	96	177	14	12	74	331	9	7	84
TERRA BELLA	86	22	6	72	47	19	15	66	133	21	9	70
THREE RIVERS	114	-	1	99	35	11	9	80	149	3	3	94
TIPTON*	14	-	-	100	5	-	20	80	19	-	5	95
TULARE	357	4	2	94	149	13	11	76	506	7	4	89
VISALIA	562	5	3	92	57	16	5	79	619	6	4	90
WOODLAKE	106	19	2	79	71	25	12	63	177	21	6	73
WOODVILLE*	8	13	-	87	2	-	-	100	10	10	-	90
FLC*	17	41	-	59	15	33	-	67	32	38	-	62
TOTAL NO.	4,107	306	121	3,680	2,966	798	518	1,650	7,073	1,104	639	5,330
% OF TOTAL	100	7	3	90	100	27	17	56	100	16	9	75

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

MEASUREMENTS OF LIBRARY USE

A knowledge of the frequency of library use by the citizens of the county
permits an insight into the citizens desire and need for library service
and facilities.

From the combined totals of the two surveys, we find the following signif-
icant county-wide totals:

1. Sixty-six percent of all the library users surveyed stated
    that they visit a library at least once every two weeks.

2. Seven percent of the above 66% stated that they visit a
    library daily.

3. Only 10% of the surveyed users stated that they visit a
    library less often than once per month.

This data indicates a fairly high use frequency of the county-wide library
system. However, variations in the use frequency of certain individual
libraries can be noted in the Tables on the following pages.

In summary, the following assumptions can be formulated:

1. The use of libraries by students and school classes will
    increase the frequency of use percentage within the daily
    and weekly categories.

2. The number of hours which a library provides service to
   the public and the compatability of those hours with users
   habits, will also affect the use frequency.

3. Except for four libraries (see Table), frequency of use
   appears rather high county-wide.

4. Frequency of use can be high while circulation is low,
   indicating that the few people who use a facility, use
   it often.

5. The relatively high frequency of use would tend to give
   support to the strong demand by users for longer and more
   flexible hours of operation as discussed in the section on
   Service.

Circulation and Intensity of Library Use

The intensity of library use can be measured by the following data sources:
Percentage of daily, weekly, every two weeks, and monthly library user visit-
ations; hours library is open to the public; total circulation, adult circu-
lation, children circulation; circulation per hour and service area popu-
lations. In analyzing this type of data from the following Tables and graphs,
high use libraries were assumed by staff to have in excess of 14,000 book
circulation per year. Average use libraries had a higher circulation than
13,000 books per year and a projected patron population of 10,000 persons.
Low use libraries were considered to have between 5,000 to 10,000 circulation.
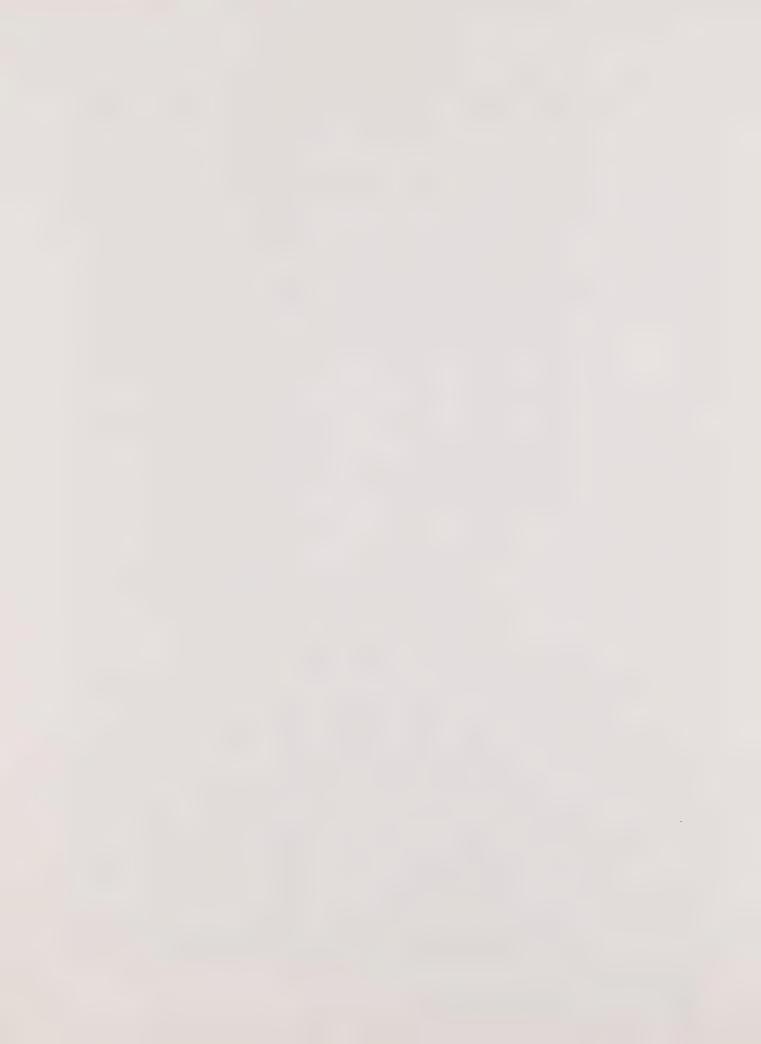Critically low use libraries were below 5,000 circulation.

FREQUENCY OF LIBRARY USE

(SURVEY 1 & 2)

BRANCH	Number of respondents	Almost daily %	% Weekly	Two week %	Three week %	Monthly %	Six months %	Once a year %
BOOKMOBILE	1,236	18.7%	4.5%	83.4%	2.7%	20.3%	2.0%	2.5%
IVANHOE	190	17.8%	26.8%	43.2%	8.9%	1.6%	0.5%	1.0%
THREE RIVERS	159	10.1%	49.0%	22.6%	6.3%	7.6%	3.8%	0.6%
EARLIMART	553	8.9%	21.3%	47.2%	6.9%	8.5%	3.4%	3.8%
WOODLAKE	179	20.7%	29.6%	15.6%	8.9%	17.9%	3.4%	3.9%
PORTERVILLE	1,026	5.5%	28.6%	26.6%	5.7%	21.7%	7.4%	4.5%
TULARE	537	10.4%	30.7%	19.4%	9.5%	22.0%	5.2%	2.8%
OROSI	86	7.0%	32.5%	19.8%	10.5%	17.4%	9.3%	3.5%
VISALIA	634	8.5%	30.3%	17.5%	11.3%	23.8%	6.0%	2.5%
TERRA BELLA	136	13.2%	30.1%	14.0%	14.7%	17.6%	2.9%	7.4%
EXETER	437	6.0%	24.7%	25.4%	14.6%	21.3%	5.7%	2.3%
STRATHMORE	349	3.2%	23.2%	29.5%	14.9%	16.6%	7.7%	4.9%
DINUBA	567	5.6%	22.4%	26.4%	15.7%	16.7%	7.9%	5.1%
LINDSAY	464	5.8%	25.9%	21.3%	9.1%	20.9%	10.8%	6.3%
ALPAUGH	64	14.0%	18.7%	14.0%	18.7%	20.3%	9.4%	4.7%
CENTRAL	368	11.4%	26.6%	11.1%	9.0%	19.6%	12.8%	9.5%
WOODVILLE*	10	-	70.0%	20.0%	-	10.0%	-	-
GRANT GROVE*	29	13.8%	65.5%	10.3%	-	-	6.9%	3.5%
JOHNSONDALE*	14	-	35.7%	35.7%	14.3%	14.3%	-	-
TIPTON*	20	5.0%	50.0%	25.0%	10.0%	5.0%	-	5.0%
PANORAMA HGTS.*	10	20.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	10.0%	-	10.0%
F. L. C.*	32	28.1%	37.5%	9.4%	3.1%	18.7%	3.1%	-
LODGEPOLE*	40	7.5%	52.5%	7.5%	7.5%	10.0%	10.0%	5.0%
GOSHEN*	16	56.2%	6.3%	6.2%	6.2%	6.3%	6.3%	12.5%
POPLAR*	42	14.3%	19.0%	28.6%	2.4%	26.2%	7.1%	2.4%
SPRINGVILLE*	33	-	30.3%	30.3%	24.2%	9.1%	3.0%	3.0%
FARMERSVILLE*	40	2.5%	15.0%	35.0%	17.5%	22.5%	2.5%	5.0%
DUCOR*	34	2.9%	26.5%	17.6%	2.9%	23.5%	8.8%	17.6%
PIXLEY*	43	4.7%	20.9%	16.3%	9.3%	30.2%	9.3%	9.3%
TOTAL %	100%	7.3%	23.7%	34.7%	8.8%	15.6%	5.9%	4.0%
NO.	7,351	533	1,744	2,549	646	1,152	431	296

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971

SUMMARY OF THE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIBRARIES WITH A HIGH LEVEL FREQUENCY OF USE
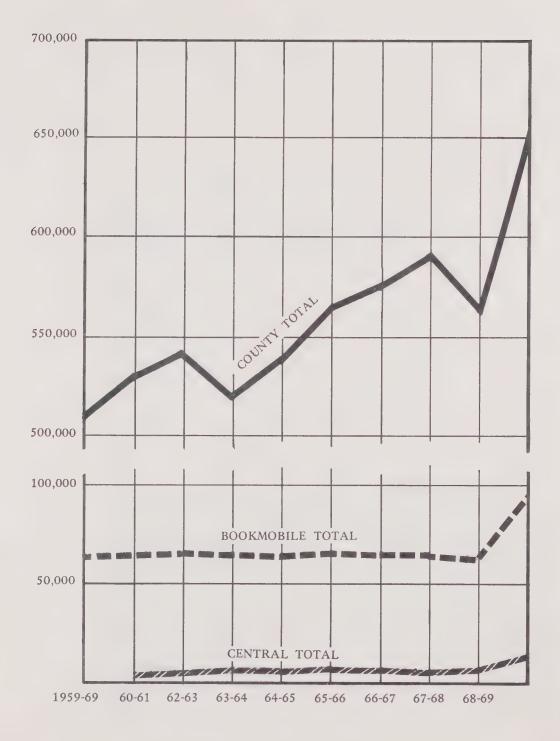
FACILITY	DAILY	WEEKLY	EVERY TWO WEEKS	TOTAL
BOOKMOBILE	1%	5%	83%	89%
IVANHOE	18%	27%	43%	88%
THREE RIVERS	10%	49%	23%	82%
EARLIMART	9%	21%	47%	77%
WOODLAKE	21%	30%	16%	67%
PORTERVILLE	5%	29%	27%	61%
TULARE	10%	31%	19%	60%
OROSI	7%	33%	20%	60%
VISALIA	9%	30%	18%	57%
TERRA BELLA	13%	30%	14%	57%
EXETER	6%	25%	25%	56%
STRATHMORE	3%	23%	30%	56%
DINUBA	6%	22%	26%	54%
LINDSAY	6%	26%	21%	53%

Indicates significant use [   ]

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971
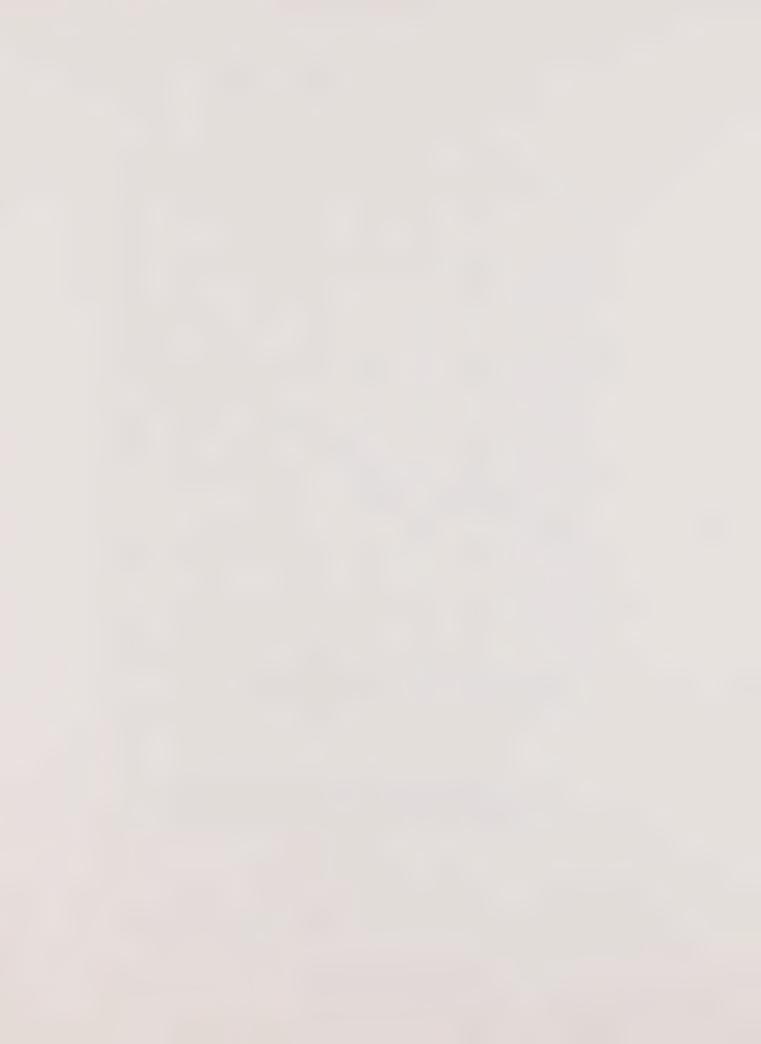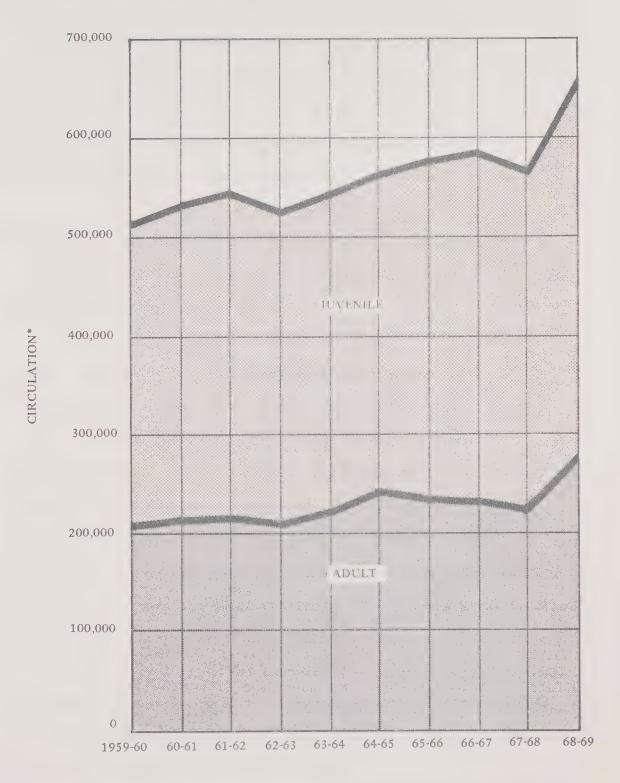
COMPARATIVE CIRCULATION TRENDS 1960-1969

*Includes books only

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971

CIRCULATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS
TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

CIRCULATION*

700,000

600,000

500,000

400,000

JUVENILE

300,000

200,000

ADULT

100,000

0

1959-60   60-61   61-62   62-63   63-64   64-65   65-66   66-67   67-68   68-69

YEAR

*Includes books only

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971

Based on the above assumptions, the libraries were in categories as follows:

1.   Eleven high use libraries (listed below in order of highest
     use): Visalia, Porterville, Tulare, Dinuba, Bookmobile,
     Exeter, Woodlake, Lindsay, Three Rivers, Earlimart, Strathmore.

2.   Two average use libraries with significant adequate pro-
     jected service areas: Orosi, Central.

3.   Five low use libraries with no projections of significant
     increases in service areas: Ivanhoe, Terra Bella, Goshen,
     Pixley and Tipton.

4.   Eleven critically low use libraries with projections of
     decreased, no change or insufficient change in service
     areas: Alpaugh, Springville, Woodville Farm Labor Camp,
     Poplar, Woodville, Ducor, Farmersville, Lodgepole, Grant
     Grove, Panorama Heights, Johnsondale.

Of special interest is the circulation per hour of operation. The standard
most accepted by librarians throughout California is ten books circulated per
hour per staff member. None of the libraries in Tulare County reach this
standard. However, the bookmobile far exceeds this standard with an average
twenty-three books circulated per hour. This indicates that the bookmobile
allows less time for decisions regarding book selection, thus performing a
more efficient but perhaps a less in-depth service.

A smaller but vital category of circulation is that of the San Joaquin Valley
Library System Biblioteca Ambulante Program. The Biblioteca Ambulante carries

material in both Spanish and English. The distribution (stops) and circulation levels can be seen from the following Table on the next page.

Use of Library Service by Telephone

The question concerning library telephone service was asked on the second survey only, 38% of the respondents state that they telephoned a library for information or service. Out of thirteen libraries which have significant responses to accurately sample the total number of users of individual libraries, ten of the larger libraries had a percentage of telephone use higher than 40%. Visalia with 67%, Tulare with 65% and Porterville with 53% were especially high. A high percentage of telephone usage would be expected for libraries located a considerable distance from the caller, or libraries with a relative substantial group of users who have difficulty getting to and from the library facilities.

Purpose for Which Libraries are Used

Although this question was asked in different ways on each survey, the combined results (compiled on the Table on the following page) leaves no doubt that the majority of (57%) the county-wide library users enjoyed the library facilities for the recreational purposes of entertainment, escape and relaxation. The category of self-education which includes magazines, newspapers, hobbies, special programs and films, etc., received a low, second-place percentage vote of 25%. Although school connected library use increased from 8% in the summer survey to 24% in the fall term, the overall percentage was only 13%. Job connected library use retained the lowest rating (5%). The Central Library (16%) had the only significant indication of job connected library use.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM
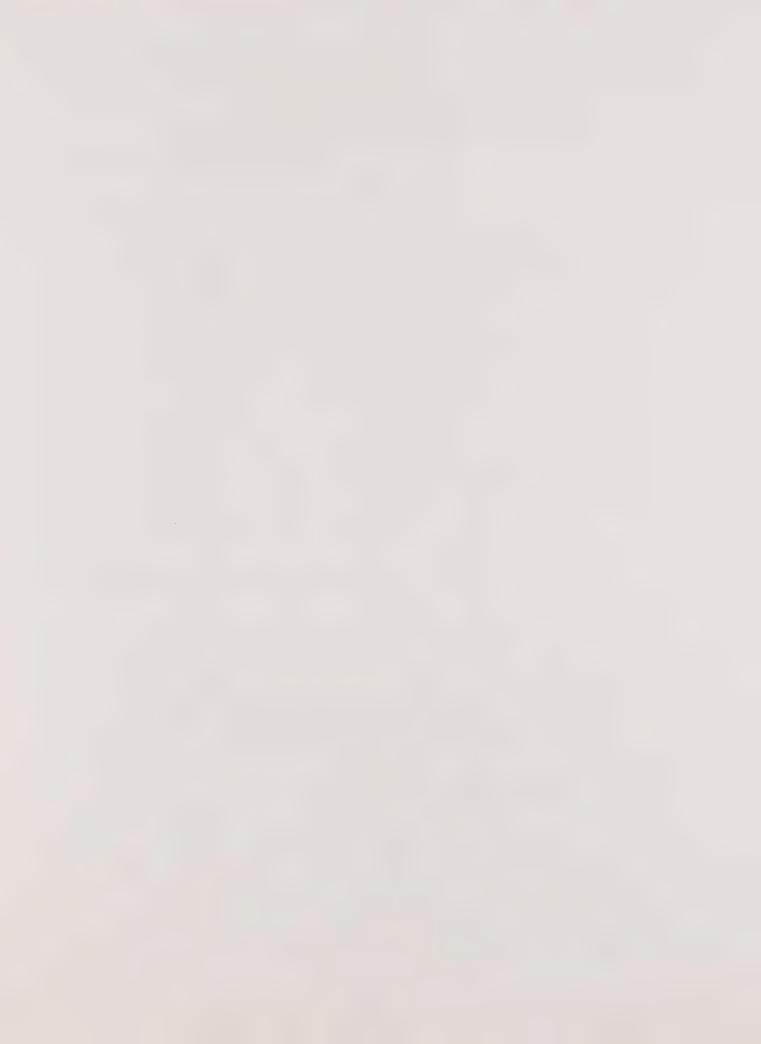
BIBLIOTECA AMBULANTE* PROGRAM (SPANISH & ENGLISH)

January - December, 1971

Tulare City Stops	Circulation
King and Santa Clara	1,141**
5th and Sacramento	1,395
Lincoln School (Jan-Aug. only)	217
Bardsley and O (Sept-Dec. only)	18
TOTAL	2,771
Tulare County Stops	
London	261
Cutler	1,114
East Orosi	724
Plainview	1,257
Tonyville	810
Traver (Jan-June only)	68
TOTAL	4,234
GRAND TOTAL	7,005

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

 * Mobile Library Program
** Books Circulated

PURPOSE FOR WHICH LIBRARY IS USED

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY					2ND SURVEY					TOTAL				
	Total number of respondents	Self-education %	Recreation %	School connected %	Job connected %	Total number of respondents	Self-education %	Recreation %	School connected %	Job connected %	Total number of respondents	Self-education %	Recreation %	School connected %	Job connected %
ALPAUGH	43	23	70	2	5	30	27	63	10	-	73	25	67	5	3
BOOKMOBILE	197	42	52	4	2	1,083	13	65	20	2	1,280	18	63	18	1
CENTRAL	371	33	42	8	17	102	50	20	18	12	473	37	37	10	16
DINUBA	520	21	68	7	4	225	22	42	34	2	745	21	60	16	3
DUCOR*	34	21	73	-	6	14	-	64	22	14	48	15	71	6	8
EARLIMART	219	39	48	9	4	391	23	38	36	3	610	29	42	26	3
EXETER	417	24	63	9	4	154	21	53	25	1	571	23	60	14	3
FARMERSVILLE*	37	32	57	8	3	11	18	64	18	-	48	29	58	11	2
GOSHEN*	15	40	60	-	-	8	12	88	-	-	23	30	70	-	-
GRANT GROVE*	25	12	80	4	4	9	67	-	-	33	34	26	59	3	12
IVANHOE	115	19	79	2	-	116	17	64	19	-	231	18	72	10	-
JOHNSONDALE*	7	29	71	-	-	8	50	50	-	-	15	40	60	-	-
LINDSAY	354	23	65	7	5	201	17	48	33	2	555	21	59	17	3
LODGEPOLE*	47	23	75	2	-	12	25	75	-	-	59	24	74	2	-
OROSI	62	27	69	2	2	48	27	38	31	4	110	27	55	15	3
PANORAMA HGTS*	7	-	86	14	-	4	50	25	25	-	11	18	64	18	-
PIXLEY*	34	26	68	6	-	19	37	32	26	5	53	30	55	13	2
POPLAR*	37	21	65	11	3	14	22	57	14	7	51	21	63	12	4
PORTERVILLE	1,169	26	58	10	6	166	27	48	21	4	1,335	26	57	11	6
SPRINGVILLE*	35	28	66	3	3	8	25	75	-	-	43	28	68	2	2
STRATHMORE	222	24	63	8	5	193	21	57	19	3	415	23	60	13	4
TERRA BELLA	119	28	59	11	2	51	26	45	29	-	170	28	55	16	1
THREE RIVERS	168	33	53	6	8	47	49	34	17	-	215	36	49	9	6
TIPTON*	17	35	65	-	-	6	17	83	-	-	23	30	70	-	-
TULARE	512	28	60	7	5	178	34	43	20	3	690	30	56	10	4
VISALIA	819	24	62	7	7	69	33	44	13	10	888	24	60	8	8
WOODLAKE	146	31	59	7	3	75	19	63	17	1	221	27	61	10	2
WOODVILLE*	12	42	58	-	-	2	-	100	-	-	14	36	64	-	-
FLC*	22	59	41	-	-	15	20	60	13	7	37	43	49	5	3
TOTAL NO.	5,782	1,543	3,468	444	327	3,259	692	1,712	770	85	9,041	2,235	5,180	1,214	412
% OF TOTAL	100	27	60	8	5	100	21	52	24	3	100	25	57	13	5

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators.)

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971.

Self-education library use was above average for the Central (37%) and Three Rivers (36%) libraries. The major category of recreation was especially high in the following libraries: Alpaugh 67%, Ducor 71%, Goshen 70%, Ivanhoe 72%, Lodgepole 75%, Springville 68%, and Tipton 70%.

In summary, we find recreational reading the dominate use in all libraries except central; job connected use practically non-existing except for Central; school connected use significant during the school term for those libraries which cater to students; and self-education use limited to certain rural communities where any type of film or program is the "only show in town" or where a "do it yourself" way of life is the norm.

Book Selection as an Indicator of Library Use

The type of books which citizens borrow from a library can describe, in part, the role which the library system fulfills in the social structure of the community. It is also an important indicator for the ordering of new books or the promotion of special programs to encourage wider selections in the categories of reading material.

From the Tables on the following pages, it is again quite evident that the majority of the library users in Tulare County prefer recreational, 'escape type', reading material. Considering the total individual library vote of 171 for all 15 choices; 128 (75%) voted for this type of recreational reading material.

Mysteries and popular fiction and non-fiction received the first and second choice votes. Love stories, science fiction and western were the choices

in the second, third and fourth categories. Hobbies and travel books are found in the third, fourth and fifth categories. Classics, psychology, nature, biography, children's books, art and music are also found in the fourth and fifth categories. Surprisingly, sports and science are found basically in the fifth and last category, due perhaps to the predominance of female library users. Individual libraries do not vary from the general county-wide choice of selection as discussed above.

Library Patrons Who Used The Library Located in The Community in Which They Live

The low number of responses to this question from the library users survey limited our analytical effectiveness. Only 13 out of 29 libraries were considered as adequately sampled. Nevertheless, the county-wide total shows 88% of the library users visiting the library located in the community in which they live (see following Tables). The only exceptions are:
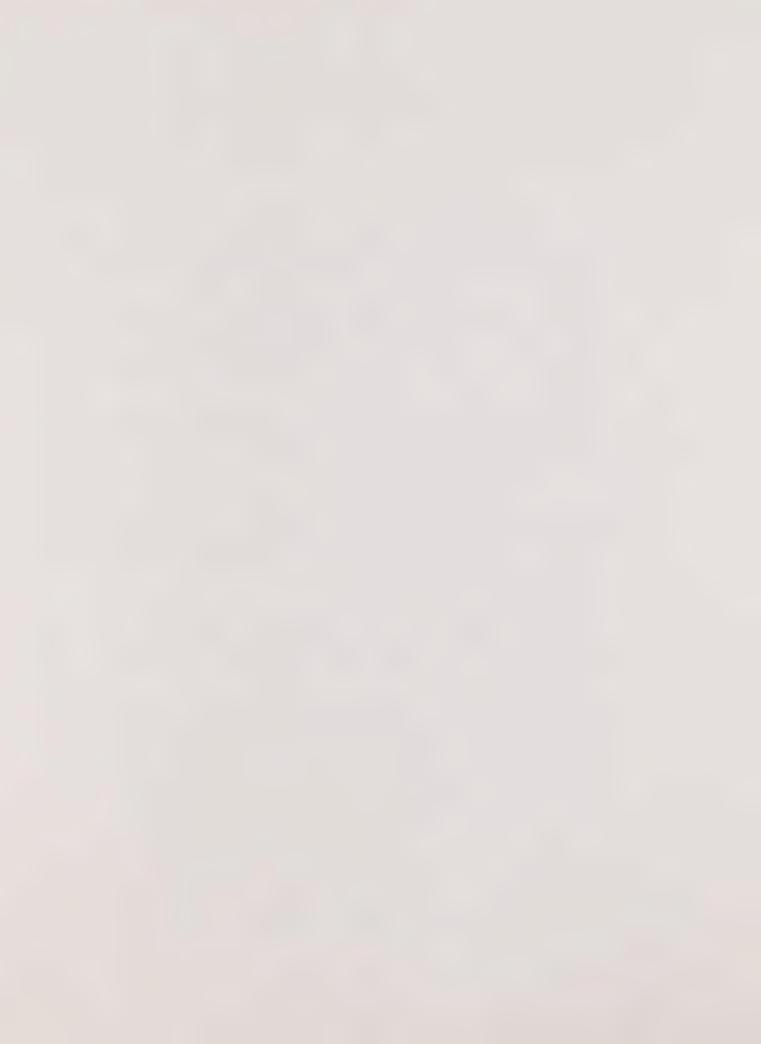
1. Central, with an extensive sphere of influence, shows 31% of its patrons living outside of Visalia.

2. Poplar shows 45% of its patrons living outside the community. This is explained by a high usage from the residence of Cotton Center located adjacent to Poplar.

3. Woodlake with 19% outside users would be accounted for by the bussing of students from Three Rivers. The County Library is located in the same building as the Woodlake High School Library.

BOOK SELECTION BY CHOICE AND CATEGORY

Available Categories	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
Mysteries	18	6	3	-	-	27
Popular Fiction & Non-fiction	8	11	2	2	1	24
Love Stories	-	6	8	5	-	19
Science Fiction	1	2	4	4	3	14
Westerns	-	2	4	3	7	16
Hobbies, How-to-do-it	3	1	5	3	2	14
History, Travel	-	1	5	4	4	14
Total						128
Classics	1	-	1	2	5	9
Psychology	-	-	-	3	4	7
Nature	-	1	-	1	5	7
Biography	1	-	1	1	2	5
Sports	-	4	1	1	1	7
Science & Technology	-	1	-	3	1	5
Children's Books	-	1	-	-	5	6
Art and Music	-	-	-	1	2	3
Total						49
Compilation	32	36	34	33	42	177

These figures indicate the number of Libraries at which that choice was listed.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

LOCAL AND NON-LOCAL LIBRARY USERS
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY			2ND SURVEY			TOTAL		
	Total number of respondents	Users from same community	Users from outside community	Total number of respondents	Users from same community	Users from outside community	Total number of respondents	Users from same community	Users from outside community
ALPAUGH	35	100	-	29	100	-	64	100	-
BOOKMOBILE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CENTRAL	254	69	31	81	68	32	335	69	31
DINUBA	342	94	6	203	92	8	545	93	7
DUCOR*	20	90	10	14	100	-	34	94	6
EARLIMART	162	96	4	401	83	17	563	86	14
EXETER	261	87	13	141	82	18	402	85	15
FARMERSVILLE*	27	96	4	11	100	-	38	97	3
GOSHEN*	7	100	-	7	100	-	14	100	-
GRANT GROVE*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IVANHOE	75	89	11	129	83	17	204	85	15
JOHNSONDALE*	7	86	14	8	100	-	15	93	7
LINDSAY	260	92	8	199	93	7	459	92	8
LODGEPOLE*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OROSI	39	77	23	47	64	36	86	70	30
PANORAMA HGTS*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PIXLEY*	24	96	4	15	87	13	39	92	8
POPLAR*	31	55	45	13	54	46	44	55	45
PORTERVILLE	805	88	12	145	89	11	950	88	12
SPRINGVILLE*	24	100	-	7	100	-	31	100	-
STRATHMORE	154	88	12	193	77	23	347	82	18
TERRA BELLA	81	86	14	48	88	12	129	87	13
THREE RIVERS	114	96	4	39	97	3	153	96	4
TIPTON*	14	100	-	6	100	-	20	100	-
TULARE	351	95	5	154	92	8	505	94	6
VISALIA	562	90	10	65	83	17	627	89	11
WOODLAKE	108	86	14	74	74	26	182	81	19
WOODVILLE*	8	75	25	2	100	-	10	80	20
FLC*	16	69	31	11	100	-	27	81	19
TOTAL NO.	3,781	3,354	427	2,042	1,733	309	5,823	5,087	736
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	89	11	100	85	15	100	87	13

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971
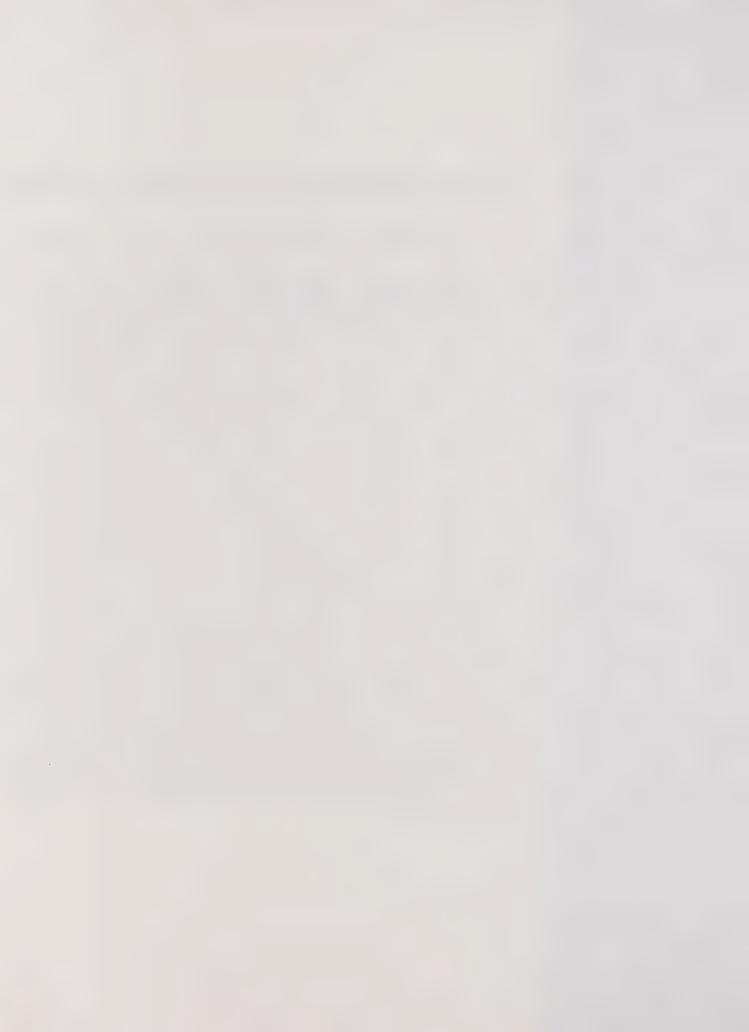
BOOK SELECTION BY PATRONS BY BRANCH LIBRARY LOCATION

CHOICE	1ST						2ND											3RD										4TH													5TH												
CATEGORY / LOCATION	Mysteries	Science Fiction	Popular Fiction and Non-Fiction	Modern and Standard Classics	Hobby and How-to-Do-It Books	Biography	Mysteries	Science Fiction	Popular Fiction and Non-Fiction	Hobby and How-to-Do-It Books	Westerns	Love Stories	Science and Technology	History, Travel	Sports, Action, War Stories	Nature and Environment	Children's Books	Mysteries	Science Fiction	Popular Fiction and Non-Fiction	Modern and Standard Classics	Hobby and How-to-Do-It Books	Biography	Western	Love Stories	History, Travel	Sports, Action, War Stories	Science Fiction	Popular Fiction and Non-Fiction	Modern and Standard Classics	Hobby and How-to-Do-It Books	Biography	Westerns	Love Stories	Science and Technology	History and Travel	Sports, Action, War Stories	Nature and Environment	Psychology, Philosophy and Religion	Arts and Music	Science Fiction	Popular Fiction and Non-Fiction	Modern and Standard Classics	Hobby and How-to-Do-It Books	Biography	Westerns	Science & Technology	History & Travel	Sports, Action, War Stories	Nature & Environment	Children's Books	Psychology, Philosophy and Religion	Arts and Music

(Correlation-dot matrix; rows: ALPAUGH, BOOKMOBILE, CENTRAL, DINUBA, DUCOR, EARLIMART, EXETER, FARMERSVILLE, GOSHEN, GRANT GROVE, IVANHOE, JOHNSONDALE, LINDSAY, LODGEPOLE, OROSI, PANORAMA HGTS., PIXLEY, POPLAR, PORTERVILLE, SPRINGVILLE, STRATHMORE, TERRA BELLA, THREE RIVERS, TIPTON, TULARE, VISALIA, WOODLAKE, WOODVILLE, F.L.C.)

● Indicates correlation

✷ Patron's Choice By Priority

<u>Routine Shopping in the Same or Different Community in</u>

<u>Which the Library User Lives</u>

This question was asked in conjunction with the question concerning joint
library visits and shopping trips. The purpose was to determine if library
users visit the library facilities located outside their home community when
and if they shop outside the community.   (See following Tables.)

The totals for the county show that 55% of the library users shop in the same
community in which they live and 45% do not. As would be expected, a high
incidence of residents shopping in other communities is only found in the
small communities lacking adequate shopping facilities. Although the number
of responses from several of the following libraries (*) are too small to be
considered, the indications would appear reasonable. The libraries listed
below indicate considerable shopping elsewhere.

Alpaugh*	Ivanhoe	Tipton*
Ducor*	Poplar*	Woodville*
Earlimart	Strathmore	Woodville Camp*
Goshen*	Terra Bella	

However, the 'outside community library use - shopping relationship' is not
supported by the analyses contained in the following section.

<u>Library Visits as Related to Shopping Trips</u>

Only 12% of the county-wide library users combined shopping trips with library
use. A high 72% of the users visit only the library. Of course, this relation-

ship can vary with the location of the library, the age of the user and the time of visitation. Only three individual libraries show even a moderate percentage of combined shopping-library trips: (Exeter 21%, Lindsay 16% and Visalia 17%). However, if pleasantly designed libraries of sufficient size were adequately stocked and located in shopping areas, users from outside the community would be encouraged to visit and use the library as part of their shopping trip.

Means of Getting to Libraries

The method which library patrons use in getting to and from the library facilities is important in determining service areas, library location within the community, location of book drops, bookmobile routes, and the design and size of parking accommodations.

Of the 6,996 persons who answered this question on both surveys: 4,120 (59%) persons stated that they used a car to get to the library; 1,973 (28%) persons walked, and 903 (13%) persons used other means. More than one half of this 'other' group can be accounted for by the approximate 500 (55%) persons who have the bookmobile come to them. (See Table on following page.)
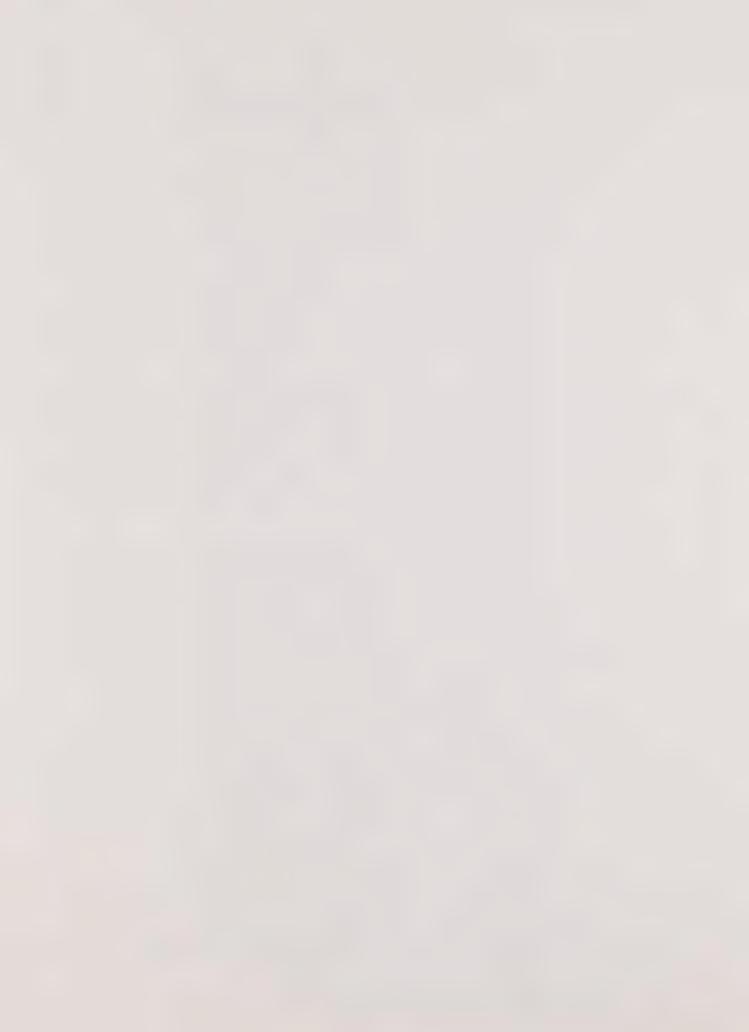
Considering only the libraries with an adequate number of responses, there are four libraries which have a higher percentage of users who walk to the library, Bookmobile, Earlimart, Ivanhoe and Terra Bella.

As might be expected, the ten libraries with a high percentage of automobile use are the following urban communities where the libraries are located greater walking distances from the majority of the citizens: Porterville 88%, Visalia

HABITS OF ROUTINE SHOPPING AND LIBRARY VISIT

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Routine Shopping Habit		Habit of Library Visit as Related to Shopping		
	Shop in the same community %	Shop outside community %	Visit Library along with shopping %	Library visit only %	Other %
ALPAUGH	14	86	7	93	-
BOOKMOBILE	-	-	14	64	22
CENTRAL	69	31	10	64	26
DINUBA	83	17	9	78	13
DUCOR*	-	100	7	64	29
EARLIMART	17	83	9	73	18
EXETER	81	19	21	73	6
FARMERSVILLE*	92	8	-	100	-
GOSHEN*	-	100	-	100	-
GRANT GROVE	-	-	-	-	-
IVANHOE	35	65	6	85	9
JOHNSONDALE*	-	-	-	88	12
LINDSAY	83	17	16	72	12
LODGEPOLE	-	-	-	-	-
OROSI	56	44	9	87	4
PANORAMA HGTS.	-	-	-	-	-
PIXLEY*	59	41	24	53	23
POPLAR*	18	82	7	86	7
PORTERVILLE	92	8	22	67	11
SPRINGVILLE*	71	29	14	57	29
STRATHMORE	11	89	11	70	19
TERRA BELLA	6	94	6	78	16
THREE RIVERS	73	27	16	70	14
TIPTON*	50	50	-	83	17
TULARE	84	16	11	81	8
VISALIA	91	9	17	80	3
WOODLAKE	63	37	10	78	12
WOODVILLE*	-	100	-	100	-
FLC*	7	93	-	100	-

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.

(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys:
August 1971, November 1971.

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY				2ND SURVEY				TOTAL			
	Total Number of Respondents	Walk %	Car %	Other %	Total Number of Respondents	Walk %	Car %	Other %	Total Number of Respondents	Walk %	Car %	Other %
ALPAUGH	29	31	69	-	29	45	55	-	58	38	62	-
BOOKMOBILE	147	59	12	29	1,081	26	15	59	1,228	30	15	55
CENTRAL	257	21	71	8	91	23	76	1	348	22	72	6
DINUBA	319	21	73	6	212	33	64	3	531	26	69	5
DUCOR*	20	45	55	-	14	36	64	-	34	41	59	-
EARLIMART	144	49	44	7	377	75	22	3	521	68	28	4
EXETER	262	23	73	4	138	27	72	1	400	24	73	3
FARMERSVILLE*	25	32	68	-	12	67	33	-	37	43	57	-
GOSHEN*	6	67	33	-	8	75	25	-	14	71	29	-
GRANT GROVE*	20	70	30	-	9	67	33	-	29	69	31	-
IVANHOE	74	39	56	5	117	62	37	1	191	53	44	3
JOHNSONDALE*	7	57	43	-	8	63	37	-	15	60	40	-
LINDSAY	255	18	78	4	197	39	60	1	452	27	70	3
LODGEPOLE*	27	59	30	11	12	75	25	-	39	64	28	8
OROSI	36	36	56	8	46	33	67	-	82	34	62	4
PANORAMA HGTS*	5	100	-	-	3	100	-	-	8	100	-	-
PIXLEY*	24	29	67	4	17	29	65	6	41	29	66	5
POPLAR*	27	37	63	-	14	36	64	-	41	37	63	-
PORTERVILLE	795	8	90	2	152	20	79	1	947	10	88	2
SPRINGVILLE*	25	40	60	-	8	25	75	-	33	36	64	-
STRATHMORE	140	25	67	8	189	24	58	18	329	24	62	14
TERRA BELLA	79	53	41	6	48	60	40	-	127	56	40	4
THREE RIVERS	110	6	92	2	40	32	68	-	150	14	85	1
TIPTON*	13	46	54	-	6	83	17	-	19	58	42	-
TULARE	340	17	81	2	165	16	84	-	505	16	82	2
VISALIA	536	9	86	5	65	17	83	-	601	10	85	5
WOODLAKE	94	42	53	5	75	52	48	-	169	46	51	3
WOODVILLE*	8	50	50	-	2	100	-	-	10	60	40	-
FLC*	15	67	33	-	15	80	20	-	30	73	27	-
TOTAL NO.	3,846	838	2,807	201	3,150	1,135	1,313	702	6,996	1,973	4,120	903
% OF TOTAL	100	22	73	5	100	36	42	22	100	28	59	13

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

85%, Three Rivers 85%, Tulare 82%, Exeter 73%, Central 72%, Lindsay 70%,

Dinuba 69%, Strathmore 62%, Orosi 62% and Woodlake 51%.

In summary:

1. The libraries located in the more urbanized ommunities have
    mostly 'drive-in' patrons, whereas the small community branches
    have 'walk-in' patrons.

2. The school term does increase the 'walk-in' library trade,
    especially the Bookmobile.

3. Ample parking should be provided for all libraries but especially
    for the high percentage of 'drive-in' libraries.

4. The design and lighting of library parking lots can assist in
    preventing any maintenance or police problems from developing.

5. Libraries which cater more to adults (drive-ins) and off-
    campus high school students will require more parking than
    libraries which cater to 'walk-ins', those living within ten
    blocks or less and elementary to junior high students.

Travel Distance to Libraries

The county-wide totals of the library surveys revealed that nearly one-half
(49%) of the library users travel 10 blocks or less. The surveys also showed
that: 70% of the users traveled less than two miles, 87% of the users

traveled less than 5 miles, and 94% of the users traveled less than 10 miles. Only 6% traveled more than 10 miles and 3% more than 16 miles. The percentage breakdown is shown on the following Table on the next page.

The individual libraries where the majority of users travel ten blocks or less are: Bookmobile 83%, Earlimart 79%, Ivanhoe 64%, Woodlake 56%, Terra Bella 54%, Exeter 55% and Dinuba 54%.

There are six libraries with the majority of their users living within 1 to 5 miles: Visalia 68%, Three Rivers 66%, Porterville 57%, Tulare 55%, Strathmore 50%, and Central 42%. Therefore, there are seven libraries where the majority of users travel ten blocks or less and eight libraries where they travel over one mile.

Certain libraries have a significant percentage of users who travel greater distances. The County Central Library is the prime example of an enlarged service area with 18% of its users traveling 6 to 15 miles and 15% of its users traveling 16 miles and over. This is double the respective percentages of 12% and 4% for the City of Visalia Library.

In summary of this travel data, we find reinforcement for a number of the conclusions made from the information pertaining to means of getting to the libraries.

1. In general the smaller, more compacted communities have the majority of library users living within a ten block or less radius.
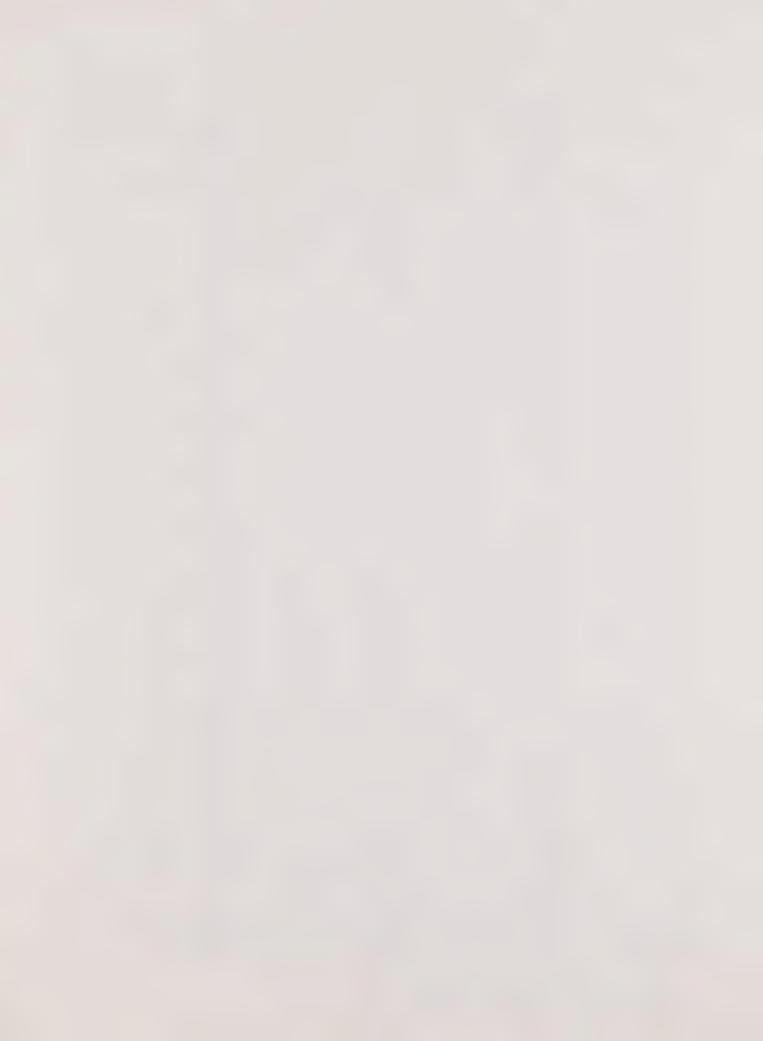
DISTRIBUTION OF TRAVEL DISTANCE TO THE LIBRARY

(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY					2ND SURVEY					TOTAL				
	Number of respondents	10 blocks or less %	1 - 5 miles %	6-15 miles %	16 miles + %	Number of respondents	10 blocks or less %	1 - 5 miles %	6-15 miles %	16 miles + %	Number of respondents	10 blocks or less %	1 - 5 miles %	6-15 miles %	16 miles + %
ALPAUGH	35	54	46	-	-	30	70	30	-	-	65	62	38	-	-
BOOKMOBILE	151	85	13	2	-	1,057	83	10	6	1	1,208	83	10	5	2
CENTRAL	272	21	46	19	14	101	37	32	15	16	373	25	42	18	15
DINUBA	356	51	35	12	2	225	58	31	8	3	581	54	33	11	2
DUCOR*	21	57	14	24	5	14	43	36	21	-	35	51	23	23	3
EARLIMART	164	79	20	1	-	396	80	17	3	-	560	79	18	3	-
EXETER	286	58	27	13	2	154	50	44	5	1	440	55	33	10	2
FARMERSVILLE*	27	75	20	5	-	13	61	31	8	-	40	73	22	5	-
GOSHEN*	8	62	25	13	-	8	100	-	-	-	16	81	13	6	-
GRANT GROVE*	20	65	30	5	-	9	78	-	-	22	29	69	21	3	7
IVANHOE	75	56	44	-	-	116	70	27	3	-	191	64	34	2	-
JOHNSONDALE*	7	100	-	-	-	7	100	-	-	-	14	100	-	-	-
LINDSAY	263	46	45	8	1	202	55	40	4	1	465	50	43	6	1
LODGEPOLE*	31	45	32	-	23	12	75	17	8	-	43	54	28	2	16
OROSI	39	61	36	-	3	49	41	53	4	2	88	50	46	2	2
PANORAMA HGTS*.	6	83	-	-	17	4	100	-	-	-	10	90	-	-	10
PIXLEY *	24	50	50	-	-	19	47	48	5	-	43	49	49	2	-
POPLAR*	30	47	26	27	-	14	29	14	57	-	44	41	23	36	-
PORTERVILLE	869	26	53	14	7	169	28	54	15	3	1,038	22	57	15	6
SPRINGVILLE*	27	48	37	8	7	8	37	38	25	-	35	46	37	11	6
STRATHMORE	154	47	45	6	2	197	34	54	11	1	351	40	50	9	1
TERRA BELLA	86	51	30	11	8	51	59	27	10	4	137	54	29	10	7
THREE RIVERS	115	8	73	16	3	46	28	48	20	4	161	14	66	17	3
TIPTON*	14	71	29	-	-	6	67	33	-	-	20	70	30	-	-
TULARE	359	29	55	14	2	177	35	55	7	3	536	31	55	12	2
VISALIA	569	16	68	12	4	71	14	68	18	-	640	16	68	12	4
WOODLAKE	108	59	25	15	1	74	52	22	15	11	182	56	24	15	5
WOODVILLE*	8	63	25	12	-	2	100	-	-	-	10	70	20	10	-
FLC*	17	65	12	23	-	15	80	20	-	-	32	72	16	12	-
TOTAL NO.	4,141	1,574	1,915	480	172	3,246	2,020	914	242	70	7,387	3,594	2,829	722	242
% OF TOTAL	100	38	46	12	4	100	62	28	8	2	100	49	38	10	3

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

2. The large, urban communities residential section spread out
    in a wider circle around their library and thus are predominantly
    within the 1-5 mile radius making it necessary to use a car to
    get to the libraries.

Opinion Regarding Larger, Centrally Located Libraries with Full
Service and the Smaller, Dispersed, Existing Facilities
(Opinion Sampled on Second Survey Only)

Of the 2938 adults who answered this question, 1544 wanted larger centrally
located libraries and 1313 wanted smaller, closer to home libraries. There
were 80 persons who did not have an opinion or who wanted more information.
However, when the answers are considered by individual libraries, we find
an approximate equal division of 15 libraries, 8 libraries being in favor
of larger, better equipped more centrally located libraries. (The mountain
libraries and the libraries with insufficient responses could not be counted.)
The users of the large city, high circulation libraries favored the larger
centrally located library: Bookmobile, Central, Dinuba, Earlimart, Lindsay,
Porterville, Tulare and Visalia. The users which favored smaller, closer
to home libraries are located in the 7 smaller communities of: Exeter,
Ivanhoe, Orosi, Strathmore, Terra Bella, Three Rivers and Woodlake.

This sample should not be given undue weight at this time, in the consider-
ation of policy. Alternative programs and policies should be presented to
the citizen of Tulare County prior to sampling the public feelings concerning
this important question. (See following Tables.)

County Library Registration

Library registration characteristics are a fundamental indicator of usage and thus provide support to the conclusions reached in the user survey. The registration trends (County System only) since 1959 are shown in the Table on the following page. The Table indicates that while total registration increased slightly since 1959, there was a significant period of decline of user activity in the middle 60's. This trend was primarily due to a marked decline in total juvenile registration from 1959 to 1965. The most significant recent trend, however, has been an increase in the proportion of adult registration in relation to the juvenile registration. This apparently has been the result of a conscious program by library administrators to place more resources in the adult sector of library services. Assuming the trends indicated on the Table are proportionally extrapolated into the future, parity between adult and juvenile registration should be achieved by 1973.

LIBRARY USERS IN FAVOR OF MORE CENTRALLY LOCATED, LARGER, BETTER-EQUIPED LIBRARIES

(By Libraries With Adequate Response)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Total Number of Respondents	Small Library Closer to Home	Larger Centrally Located Library	Other
BOOKMOBILE	1,015	402	524	89
CENTRAL	82	16	65	1
DINUBA	200	84	107	9
EARLIMART	367	141	213	13
LINDSAY	186	88	91	7
PORTERVILLE	132	43	83	6
TULARE	131	50	80	1
VISALIA	59	9	48	2
TOTAL NO.	2,172	833	1,211	128
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	38	56	6
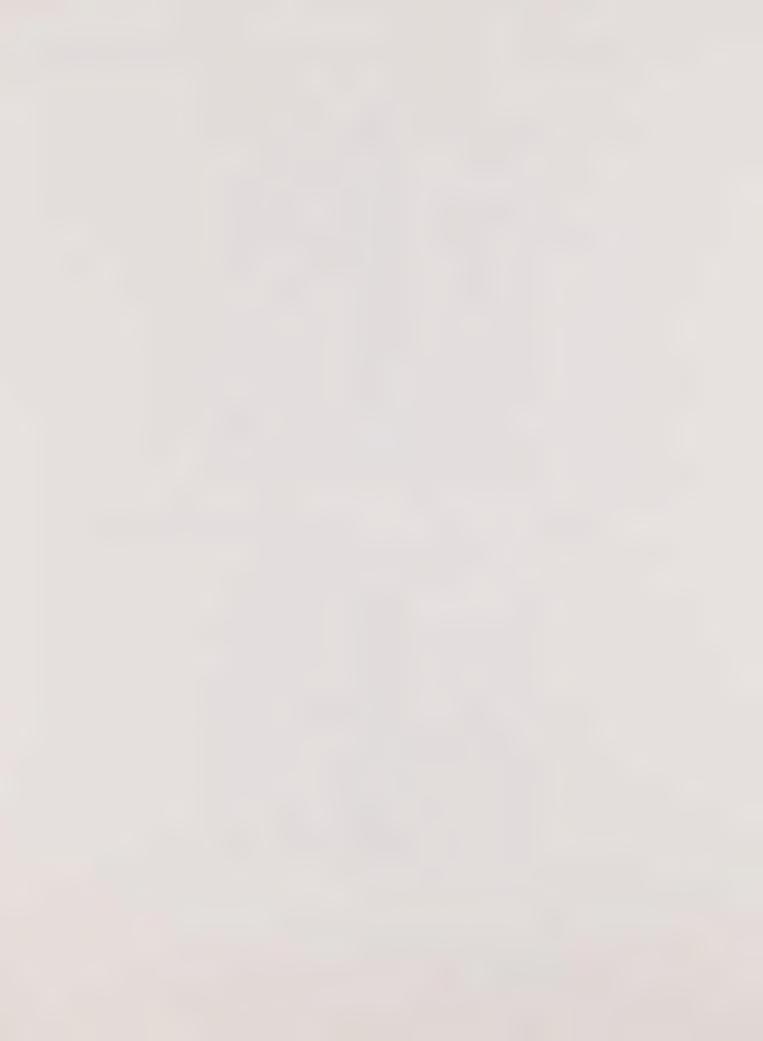
LIBRARY USERS IN FAVOR OF SMALL LIBRARIES CLOSE TO THEIR HOMES

(By Libraries With Adequate Response)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Total Number of Respondents	Small Library Closer to Home	Larger Centrally Located Libraries	Other
EXETER	129	73	52	4
IVANHOE	111	86	25	-
STRATHMORE	183	125	55	3
WOODLAKE	71	41	26	4
TOTAL NO.	494	325	158	11
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	66	32	2

Libraries with insignificant responses were not included.

COUNTY LIBRARY PATRON REGISTRATION

	TOTAL	ADULT	JUVENILE
1959-60	36,213	9,030	27,183
1960-61	33,613	9,582	24,031
1961-62	35,266	11,227	24,039
1962-63	35,413	15,699	19,714
1963-64	35,969	16,301	19,668
1964-65	32,468	14,352	18,116
1965-66	32,535	14,014	18,521
1966-67	35,160	15,205	19,955
1967-68	35,889	15,673	20,216
1968-69	36,140	16,071	20,069
1969-70	37,007	17,075	19,932
1970-71	37,316	17,800	19,516

Does not include Tulare, Porterville, and Visalia.

Data on registration in small stations is not consistently included-i.e. no recent count of registration (informal) at Woodville FLC, Panorama Hgts., Lodgepole, Grant Grove, and Mt. Home.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971

SERVICE

Based on demand estimates established within the context of the user survey
and other pervasive standards, the existing library facilities and services
in Tulare County supply only a portion of the facilities needed to properly
service all residents. The need for a broader range of Library facilities
exists today, and will increase substantially over the next twenty years. It
is the purpose of this study to illustrate the existing discrepancy between
facilities offered and those needed by Tulare County residents and to pro-
pose the establishment of new facilities and increased services, administ-
trated and distributed through a modern, progressive Library system. This
section will analyze the library users statements concerning existing re-
quested services as expressed in the library surveys.

General Adequacy of Library Service

From the analysis of the survey, 25% of the persons who responded to this
question stated that the service was not adequate or that the service was
sometimes not satisfactory. When considering the combined percentages for
the "no" (not adequate) and "sometimes" (not adequate) as a negative response,
then the following ten libraries are of special concern: Dinuba 40%,
Ivanhoe 39%, Bookmobile 33%, Central 31%, Earlimart 26%, Porterville 25%,
Terra Bella 24%, Lindsay 24%, Exeter 23% and Woodlake 20%.

Some 38%, or 1,167 persons who answered the question concerning adequacy of
telephone service on the survey, stated that they did use the library tele-
phone service. Of those who responded, 65% stated that service was adequate,
and 20% stated that service was not adequate. However, when the 15% who

responded that service is only sometimes adequate is added to the "no" or negative 20%, a significant 35% of the users were at times, unhappy with the service.

Again, considering the combined percentage for the "no (not adequate) and sometimes (not adequate)" response for fourteen libraries with significant responses, eight libraries had over 20% negative responses. These libraries were: Bookmobile 56%, Earlimart 48%, Ivanhoe 35%, Woodlake 35%, Porterville 24%, Strathmore 24%, Terra Bella 28% and Dinuba 21%.

It should be noted, that telephone service was not available to many of the libraries until approximately 1-1/2 years ago. Today, Ducor has the only library branch on the valley floor without telephone service. One of the problems of telephone library service is the listing of library telephone numbers in numerous telephone books.

It is suggested that an inventory of library staff be taken to determine the type of service requested by telephone, the policy if any, which the staff follows in answering telephone requests, and the type of direction and staff training program which might be required to improve telephone service.

When library users were asked what they did when they failed to find a book, a 69% majority (84% - first survey; 49% - second survey) responded that they made use of the free request service offered by the libraries. A relatively high percentage indicator of unsatisfactory service is found county-wide when 12% (6% - first survey, 21% - second survey) of the surveyed users give up entirely. Only 3% of the users would spend personal resources to purchase the desired material or book. Sixteen percent of the users stated

that they went to other libraries (16% - first survey, 26% - second survey). The following libraries had more than 20% of their users go to another library: Bookmobile 22%, Central 25%, Dinuba 21%, Earlimart 21%, Farmersville 28%, Orosi 25%, and Pixley 27%. A significant total of 29% of the library users give up or go to other libraries when they are unable to obtain at their local library, the material which they desire. (See following Tables.)

Additional Library Service Requested by Users

Tulare County Library users were asked which library services they felt were in the greatest need of improvements. Their responses have been tabulated and **arrayed** on the tables contained on the following three pages. Of the approximate 19,000 responses, 45% or 8,629 responses were requests for larger and newer book collections. Cassettes, Tapes and Records received another 10% or 1,973 requests. The combined percentage relating to additional hours of operation received 12% or 2,362 requests.

The demand for larger and updated book collections is understandable because of the substandard size of the book stock contained within the library system. There is a total of 190,000 books within the county system, or an average of .96 book per citizen. Porterville, Tulare and Visalia adds another 115,447 volumes for an overall average of 1.5 books per person. The standard of the American Library Association is 2 to 4 books per person. The authentic reasons for the strong user complaint concerning additional and newer books were related not specifically to volume, but to distribution and storage as outlined below:

1. Books are not located where the users can readily find them.

2. There is not sufficient staff to help the user find the book he desires or needs.

3. Most of the branch libraries do not have the floor space or shelving to store sufficient stock.

4. There is not sufficient staff to inventory, relocate or distribute the books.

5. The existing "whereabouts" (locational) file requires updating through an inventory of both the Central Library book stock and the total system stock of children's books. At present, all title cards for each of the 29 libraries have to be re-searched for every child's book requested.

6. The libraries of Porterville, Tulare and Visalia are limited in their book stock due to the fact that purchases are for the use of a single library, whereas the county purchases books for twenty-nine libraries. Any book which the cities' libraries do not have, can be borrowed from other libraries but must be requested through the time consuming search and locating procedure of the State Library System.

Hours of Library Operation Open to Public

The nine urbanized libraries with the highest number of operating hours per week are as follows: Porterville - 69, Visalia - 62, Dinuba - 56, Exeter - 56, Lindsay - 56, Woodlake - 51, Earlimart - 51, Three Rivers - 48, Tulare - 48, and Central - 45. There are seven libraries with just under 40 operational hours per week: Terra Bella, Pixley, Goshen, Ivanhoe, Orosi and Strathmore are all open 38 hours per week. Even with a relatively high number of hours

ACTIONS OF LIBRARY USERS WHEN BOOKS CANNOT BE FOUND

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	1ST SURVEY					2ND SURVEY					TOTAL				
	Total number of respondents	Use free request %	Go to another library %	Buy book %	Give up %	Total number of respondents	Use free request %	Go to another library %	Buy book %	Give up %	Total number of respondents	Use free request %	Go to another library %	Buy book %	Give up %
ALPAUGH	35	86	6	3	5	30	93	-	7	-	65	89	3	5	3
BOOKMOBILE	150	86	9	1	4	1,078	39	25	4	32	1,228	45	22	4	29
CENTRAL	261	81	15	1	3	9	37	51	4	8	360	69	25	2	4
DINUBA	348	85	8	2	5	210	37	44	3	16	558	67	21	3	9
DUCOR *	21	90	5	5	-	13	69	23	-	8	34	82	6	3	9
EARLIMART	162	86	9	-	5	383	50	26	2	22	545	61	21	2	16
EXETER	283	91	6	1	2	150	62	20	2	16	433	81	11	1	7
FARMERSVILLE*	26	73	15	-	12	13	46	54	-	-	39	64	28	-	8
GOSHEN *	8	75	12	-	13	8	87	-	-	13	16	81	6	-	13
GRANT GROVE*	20	85	10	5	-	8	100	-	-	-	28	89	7	4	-
IVANHOE	75	100		-	-	114	75	12	1	12	189	85	7	1	7
JOHNSONDALE *	6	100	-		-	7	100	-	-	-	13	100	-	-	-
LINDSAY	259	84	7	2	7	181	42	31	5	22	456	66	17	4	13
LODGEPOLE *	29	87	13	-	-	9	56	-	22	22	38	79	11	5	5
OROSI	39	72	13	-	15	46	52	35	7	6	85	61	25	3	11
PANORAMA HGTS.	6	83	17	-	-	4	75	25	-	-	10	80	20	-	-
PIXLEY *	23	87	4	4	5	18	39	56	-	5	41	66	27	2	5
POPLAR *	29	86	10	-	4	14	79	7	7	7	43	84	9	2	5
PORTERVILLE	838	79	10	2	9	152	21	6	22	51	990	75	11	3	11
SPRINGVILLE *	26	92	4	-	4	7	57	29	14	-	33	85	9	3	3
STRATHMORE	154	92	4	1	3	187	65	22	2	11	341	77	14	1	8
TERRA BELLA	83	82	8	-	10	48	50	27	-	23	131	70	15	-	15
THREE RIVERS	113	93	4	2	1	45	71	16	2	11	158	86	8	2	4
TIPTON *	14	93	7	-	-	6	50	33	-	17	20	80	5	10	5
TULARE	351	88	5	3	4	162	53	31	4	12	513	77	13	4	6
VISALIA	556	77	10	3	10	66	62	23	6	9	622	76	11	3	10
WOODLAKE	102	92	5	-	3	73	63	25	4	8	175	80	13	2	5
WOODVILLE *	8	87	13	-	-	2	100	-	-	-	10	90	10	-	-
FLC *	17	100	-	-	-	15	74	13	-	13	32	88	6	-	6
% OF TOTAL	100	84	8	2	6	100	49	26	4	21	100	69	16	3	12
TOTAL NO.	4,042	3,396	332	74	240	3,158	1,550	829	112	667	7,200	4,946	1,161	186	907

* Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
  (Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES

(Arrayed from highest to lowest demand)

REQUEST	NO.	PERCENTAGE
Larger Book Collection and Periodicals	5,545	29%
Newer Books	3,084	16%
Cassettes, Tapes, Records	1,973	10%
Lounge, Smoking Area, Background Music	1,147	6%
Improve Child Service and Program	1,111	6%
Circulating Films and Art	826	5%
Larger Building	752	4%
Open Saturdays	715	4%
Adult Programs	694	4%
Less Formal Atmosphere, Rules	690	4%
Open Sunday	595	3%
Copy Machine Service	586	3%
Open Evenings	567	3%
Longer Hours of Service	485	2%
Better and Larger Library Staff	236	1%
Total	19,006	100%

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

ADDITIONAL SERVICE REQUESTED

LOCATION	1ST: Longer hours	1ST: Larger Collection	2ND: Longer hours	2ND: Larger book collection	2ND: Newer books	2ND: Cassette tapes and record equipment	2ND: Circulation of film and art equipment	2ND: Less formal atmosphere	3RD: Longer hours	3RD: Newer books	3RD: Cassette tapes and record equipment	3RD: Circulation of film and art equipment	3RD: Copy machine	3RD: Improved child service	3RD: Provide smoking and lounge area	4TH: Newer books	4TH: Cassette tapes and record equipment	4TH: Circulation of film and art equipment	4TH: Less formal atmosphere	5TH: Longer hours	5TH: Cassette tapes and record equipment	5TH: Circulation of film and art reproduction	5TH: Less formal atmosphere	5TH: Copy machine	5TH: Improved child service	5TH: Provide smoking and lounge area
ALPAUGH		●			●							●					●			●						
BOOKMOBILE	●			●						●							●								●	
CENTRAL	●			●						●							●						●			
DINUBA		●	●							●							●						●			
DUCOR*	●			●						●							●						●			
EARLIMART	●			●						●							●								●	
EXETER		●	●							●							●						●			
FARMERSVILLE*	●			●						●									●		●				●	
GOSHEN*	●			●						●							●							●	●	
GRANT GROVE*		●	●							●							●					●				
IVANHOE		●	●							●							●								●	
JOHNSONDALE*		●	●							●				●			●		●							●
LINDSAY		●	●							●							●						●			
LODGEPOLE*	●			●						●							●	●								●
OROSI	●			●						●							●								●	
PANORAMA HGTS*		●				●	●			●																
PIXLEY*	●			●							●					●									●	
POPLAR*		●	●								●					●									●	
PORTERVILLE		●	●							●									●		●					
SPRINGVILLE*		●	●							●							●						●			
STRATHMORE		●	●							●							●					●				
TERRA BELLA		●	●							●							●						●			
THREE RIVERS		●	●							●							●						●			
TIPTON*		●			●				●								●		●				●		●	
TULARE		●	●							●							●						●			
VISALIA		●	●							●							●						●			
WOODLAKE	●			●						●							●		●						●	
WOODVILLE*		●	●		●			●					●		●											
FLC*	●			●						●											●		●			

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe.
(Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)
Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

● Indicates correlation

open to the public, a very strong request from library users was recorded on the table on the following page. User complaints were not entirely related to the number of hours opened but also centered around the flexibility and variety of operational hours. The libraries' staff could overlap or distribute their working hours so that the branches may be open when the working citizen can use them (e.g., at noon, evenings, Saturdays and Sundays). The staggered shifting of county personnel is being tested in another county department; it should also be tested within the Library System.

Of special concern are the small rural libraries open less than 20 hours per week: Poplar - 19, Farmersville - 15, Alpaugh - 15, Ducor - 15, Springville- 15, Tipton - 15, Woodville Farm Labor Camp - 9, and Woodville - 9. The five mountain library branches are open an average of 5 hours per week. Libraries which limit their operation to so few hours of service per week cannot hope to reach a level of circulation where adequate service or an economically efficient operation can be developed or maintained.

FUTURE SERVICE PROPOSALS:

The Tulare County Library System must expand and enrich its present facilities and services. Without exception, every branch offers services which do not meet desirable standards. Future improvement programs must analyze the following problems and implement solutions accordingly:

1. The existing book volumes must be increased in number and be made relevant to local, social, school, employment and recreational needs.
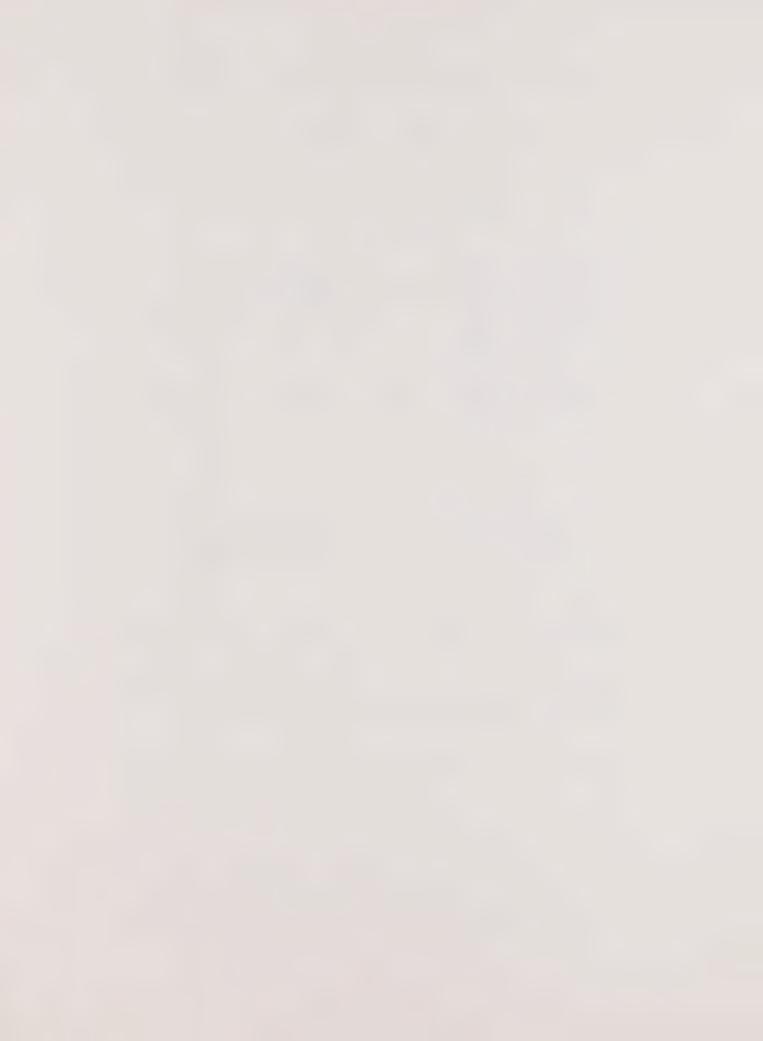
2. Each branch should adjust its schedule to meet the public needs.

3. De-formalization of the existing library atmosphere may be use-
    ful in attracting greater patronage. Three examples of de-
    formalization are:

    a. Elimination of fines.
    b. Placing books in areas of easy access (i.e., supermarket)
    c. Locate return boxes in areas of easy access.

4. Combine libraries with major activity centers (commercial,
    recreational, or public areas).

5. Offer new, educational and social programs to include the
    retired and elderly who have a tremendous potential for
    future patronage.

6. Offer more mobile programs in areas where access to a library
    branch is a restriction against increased patronage (e.g., farm
    labor camps, mobile home parks, senior citizens' residences).

7. Increase or combine public service programs (lectures, folk
    singing, etc.) with library facilities.

8. Encourage library staff to publicize the extent and quality
    of their service (possibly circulate fliers of new books
    available each month), in addition to the standard new book
    list.

USER'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL LIBRARY HOURS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

REQUESTED HOURS	No. Responses Second Survey	Percentage
WEEKDAY EVENINGS	953	39%
SUNDAY AFTERNOON	639	26%
SATURDAY AFTERNOON	404	16%
ADDITIONAL SATURDAY HOURS	276	11%
SATURDAY MORNINGS	199	8%
TOTAL	2,471	100%

REQUIRED HOURS	No. Responses First Survey	Percentage
OPEN SATURDAYS	715	30%
OPEN SUNDAY	595	25%
OPEN EVENINGS	567	20%
LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE	485	20%
TOTAL	2,362	100%

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

9. Encourage staff to take an active part in community activity.

10. Create inviting reading environments. (For example, light-
weight lawn chairs could be placed outside in certain locations
such as Three Rivers, Terra Bella, Exeter, etc.)

11. Magazines and periodicals should be located where the public
can look them over, not in a dark basement or crowded store-
room as is the present situation in most of the libraries.

The library facility offers a great potential for servicing a variety of local,
social, needs; thus acting as a potential activity center and asset to a com-
munity rather than a static, and in many cases underused, county service.

NUMBER AND QUALITY OF BOOKS AND RELATED MATERIALS

A prime function of the community library is to furnish a diverse collection
of books, periodicals, pamphlets, newspapers, and related materials for its
patrons. The book selection should be varied, flexible and capable of adapt-
ing to the changing needs of the community for services such as education, self-
development, professional and business research and community endeavors. The
ability of the county system to accomplish this function will be discussed
within this section of the report. Also, the number and composition of book
stock will be evaluated along with the identification of inadequacies and
recommendations for improvement in services.

Definitions: (Source: California Public Library Report 1970-71)

1. Volume: is any printed or otherwise reproduced work,
   bound or unbound, which has been catalogued or fully
   prepared for use. Any government document so prepared should
   be counted as a volume.

2. Periodical: is a publication appearing at regular intervals
   of less than a year and continuing for an indefinite period.
   Government publications which fit this definition are con-
   sidered as periodicals.

Composition of Existing Book Stock

The existing county book stock is composed of over 190,000 volumes, or an aver-
age of .96 book per capita, approximately 1/3 of which are stored at the Central

facility located in the County Courthouse. The balance is distributed to the branch libraries on a revolving basis or by request. With the addition of the book stock from the cities of Porterville, Tulare and Visalia, the total volume is 337,131 books, or an average of 1.7 books per capita (see Tables on following pages). The County-Cities book stock ratio of adult to children books is a little less than 2:1. The county ratio is approximately 2.5:1. The American Library Association National Standard is a ratio of 2:1.

When the number of individual or separate book titles are reviewed for the County book stock, the total number is found to be 76,040 book titles, or an average number of .39 book titles per capita. Although 5,459 new children's books were added to the county system last year, only 641 of these were different titles. (Note: There are 32,033 adult and 2,223 childrens titles published in 1971.)

The careful selection of children's books is of more concern than the actual number. Children are not as demanding as are adults as to the number of individual titles.

Inadequacies and Improvements in Materials and Related Services

Some of the inadequacies which are common to the county's book stock and materials are as follows:

1. There is no up-to-date locational index of children's book
    volumes for any of the libraries. The lack of an index makes
    it more difficult to find requested books. All existing
    lists of books and their locations should be finished
    and placed in a data processing file for quick retrieval.

2. There is an existing policy of distributing new titles to
    the branches, according to their activity level. This
    has an effect of depressing the circulation potentiality
    of the marginal branches. It is believed, for example,
    that some of the young adults in Springville will not use
    the local branch because of the lack of new titles and
    reference books. As a result, they are forced to use
    Porterville's more extensive collection.

3. One of the chronic complaints registered by user's re-
    sponses was that branch libraries stock too many old books
    and not enough new books. Another complaint was related
    to the lack of enough books in general. The cause of this
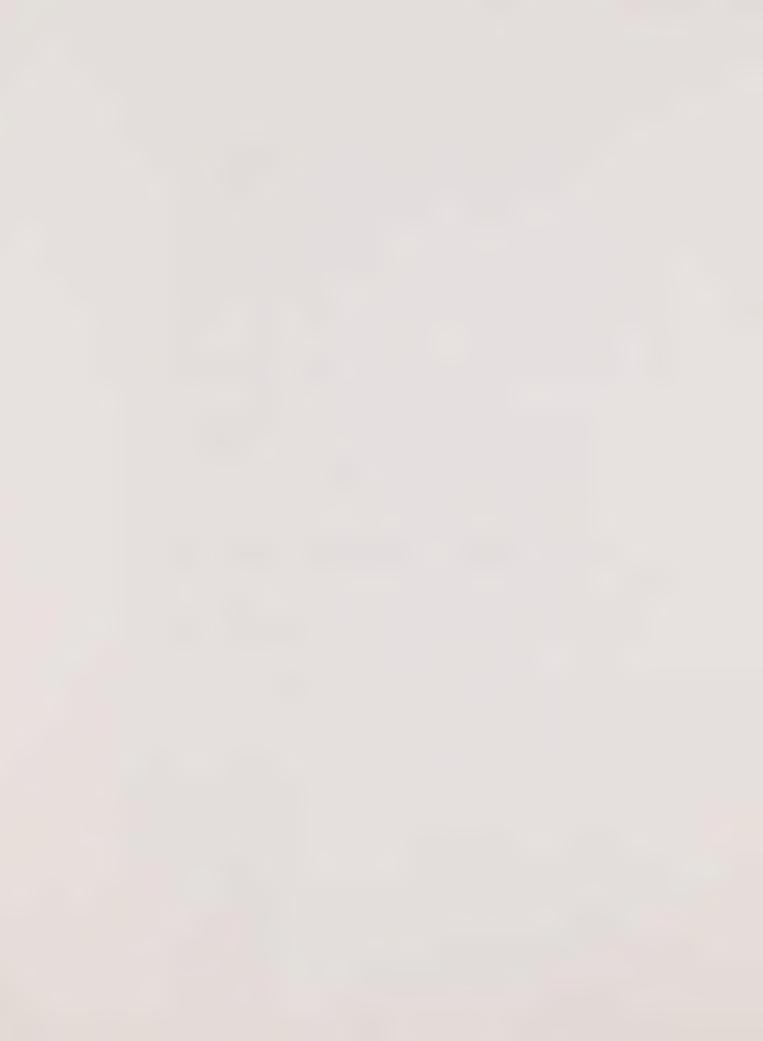   condition is obvious.

    The County Library System originally designed to serve
    the small, rural community through small depository
    stations has remained virtually unchanged for the past
    sixty years. Consequently, a dilemma of "not enough space
    to stock enough books in the right locations" has developed.

4. There is a need for an acquisitions librarian to supervise
    the selection and purchase of new books. At present the
    chief administrator of the total library system, the County
    Librarian, allocates an inordinate amount of time in
    this time consuming but important task. Additional per-
    sonnel with professional training equal to this task should
    be retained so that County Librarian's time may be used
    for more responsible and higher level administrative duties.

TOTAL BOOK VOLUME OF THE LIBRARIES OF TULARE COUNTY
AND THE CITIES OF PORTERVILLE, TULARE AND VISALIA

	CHILDREN	ADULT	TOTAL
COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM	51	45,650	45,701
COUNTY BRANCHES	58,485	137,060	195,839
PORTERVILLE	7,085	27,486	33,571
TULARE	9,665	21,619	31,284
VISALIA	27,036	49,695	76,731
GRAND TOTAL	102,171	235,860	337,131

Average per capita book volume for the County Library System = .99
(less than one book per person)

Average per capita book volume for the County and Cities Libraries = 1.7

The minimum standard of the American Library Association equals two to four books per person with two books being the minimum.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys August 1971, November 1971

THE NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF THE COUNTY'S BOOK STOCK FOR 1970-71

	Adult Dept.	Children's Dept.
No. volumes beginning year	126,095	59,176
No. volumes added during year	9,791	5,454
No. volumes withdrawn during year	3,821	6,145
No. volumes end of year	137,060	58,485
Total volumes added in past 10 years	69,351	44,209
No. of separate book titles beginning of year	61,329	14,711
Separate titles added	3,474	641
Titles withdrawn	1,190	1,001
Total separate book titles at end of year	63,613	14,351
Total No. of reference (non-circulating) titles in collection	2,618	

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August, 1971, November, 1971

5. The ancillary services of the County Library System are con-
   sidered to be mediocre at best. These services include:
   photos, microfilm, recordings, and other materials. In
   addition, the County Library System has one movie projector
   and almost no other audio-visual equipment.

6. There are inherent delays in the operation of the free re-
   quest service. The delays are caused by the employment of
   time-consuming methods of search and retrieval and by problems
   of communications and logistics. Unfortunately, many of the
   customers' requests are for basic kinds of books that
   normally should be stocked within the community library,
   itself. The inadequacy of basic book stock at the branches
   then places a heavier burden on the free request service
   and tends to further "bog down" its operation.

   The County Librarian has instituted a program to build-up
   the basic book stock at the branches (some have no basic
   book stock), however, the program is hampered by lack of
   available funds and limited space.

National Standards for Books and Library Material

As a matter of comparison, the American Library's Minimum Standards for books
and other materials are as follows:

"The headquarters should contain at least 100,000 adult non-fiction
titles as a basic collection. The headquarters should add approx-
imately 50% of the new adult non-fiction trade titles published in

English in the United States each year in sufficient duplication to meet needs ... The total system collection should own resources of at least two to four volumes per capita ... Collections should be maintained by annual additions and replacements of not less than 1/6 volumes per capita ...

Up to 1/3 of the volumes added annually should be for children ... at least 5% of its annual additions should be materials of specific interest to young adults ... At least one currently published periodical title should be available for each 250 people in service area ... The basic film collection for the system should consist of one title for each 1,000 population served, but no collection should have less than 1,000 titles ... Film collections will need replacements and additions at the rate of 10-15% per year ...

The basic collection of recordings for the system should consist of one disc or tape for each 50 people in the service area, but no collection should contain less than 5,000 discs and reels ... Recordings will need replacement and additions at the rate of 10-15% per year minimum."

Recommendations:

A diverse book collection responsive to the community needs should be considered an essential function of branch library service. Although the public demands for more books and newer books may not be completely answered immediately, improved service levels could be implemented through the following recommendations:

1. Increase budgetary allocation for the purchase of books and
    materials.

2. Provide additional shelf space to stock additional books.
    Given the existing space limitations, this may only be
    accomplished by:

    a. Inventory and discard outdated, unused books.

    b. Building new, larger branch buildings.

    c. Enlarging and/or remodeling some of the existing
        facilities.

    d. Leasing of additional space.

3. Accelerate the build-up of the basic book stock to be
    held permanently at the branch libraries.

4. Increase library staff personnel to include:

    a. An acquisitions librarian.

    b. A qualified librarian to conduct a continuing
        inventory of book stocks and to discard old
        books.

5. Increase the stock of ancillary materials, such as:
    photos, pictures and prints, records, tapes and
    cassettes.

6. Purchase audio-visual facilities for group and
    community use.

LIBRARY PERSONNEL

The fundamental effectiveness of any library system depends greatly upon the

quality of staff in terms of education, professional training, experience and

personal commitment. The quality of staffing may be the deciding factor in

the branch's overall usefulness in serving the public. American Library's

Association's Minimum Branch Standards aptly describes the importance of

the quality of staff in the following manner:

> "The Library system must have adequate and competent personnel to
>
> render effective service. The library's unique function of serving
>
> as the one unbiased, nonpartisan source of information for all the
>
> people, calls for personnel of the highest competence and integrity.
>
> The selection of qualified staff members, as well as the organi-
>
> zation and conditions under which they work, are basic considerations
>
> in an institution dedicated to public service. Every possible
>
> technique and approach should be used to attract qualified people to
>
> the library profession."

Adhering to these qualitative standards in the staffing of the county's rural

one-person branch library system, is extremely difficult because of numerous

contributing factors, such as the inability to recruit professionally trained

librarians. Since the salaries and benefits of a rural library system are

usually lower than urban areas, qualified personnel living in these areas

ordinarily do not wish to commute or move to rural communities. This situation

places the rural counties in a marginal position relative to competition for

personnel services.   This condition is further aggravated by the system being

composed almost entirely of small, rural branches each of which cannot command

or adequately compensate the services of qualified professionals. Consequently,

none of the county's twenty-five branch/station libraries have (according to established criteria) a qualified, professionally, accredited librarian. Regrettably, this lack may be realistically translated into a lower level of service for most of the county's library users. The concept of providing public facilities and services in some semi-rural counties has been to bring services directly to the people utilizing a local, non-professional staff. The rationale behind this concept is steadily weakening since: (1) citizen mobility has increased; (2) the composition of the citizens of the county is rapidly changing resulting in increased service demands and expanded awareness of events and activities outside the community, and (3) today's qualified professionals are trained to find better, less costly methods of providing expanded and improved service.

The following sections detail the problems inherent in the present staffing of the Tulare County Library System:

Middle Management

The central library continues to attempt to provide service despite the larger size of its jurisdiction, without a significant management structure designed to meet the needs of an expanded operational situation. Although some central and branch divisions have acquired assistants, as work increased, no significant line structure has developed. All four existing professional staff aides to the department head function entirely as special area consultants (adult, children's reference, etc. services) rather than as middle management, or line supervisors. The span of front-line supervision (32 persons in 26 geographical

locations responsible to the one department head) has over extended the 1930 concept of the one County Librarian supervisor being the only manager or supervisor (suitable to the 1930 organization) to a point far beyond reason or efficiency. As is found necessary in any organization of similar size, the development of a strong, middle management team is desirable. (See a sample organizational chart on following page.)
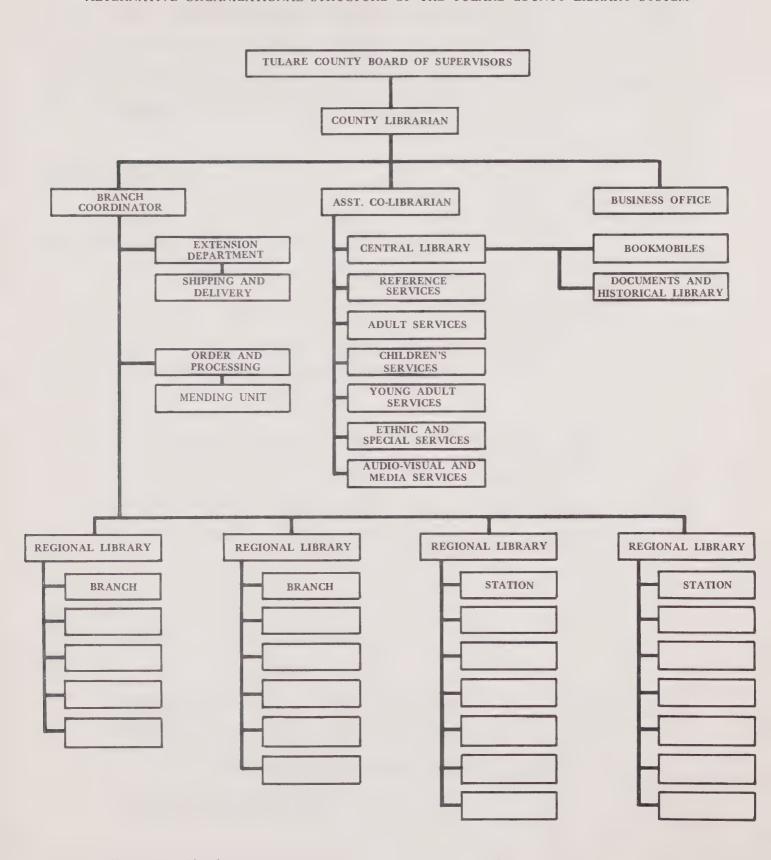
Personnel, Qualifications and Duties

The following section consists of a succinct evaluation of the quality of the existing library staff in comparison to requirements established in the county position classification system.
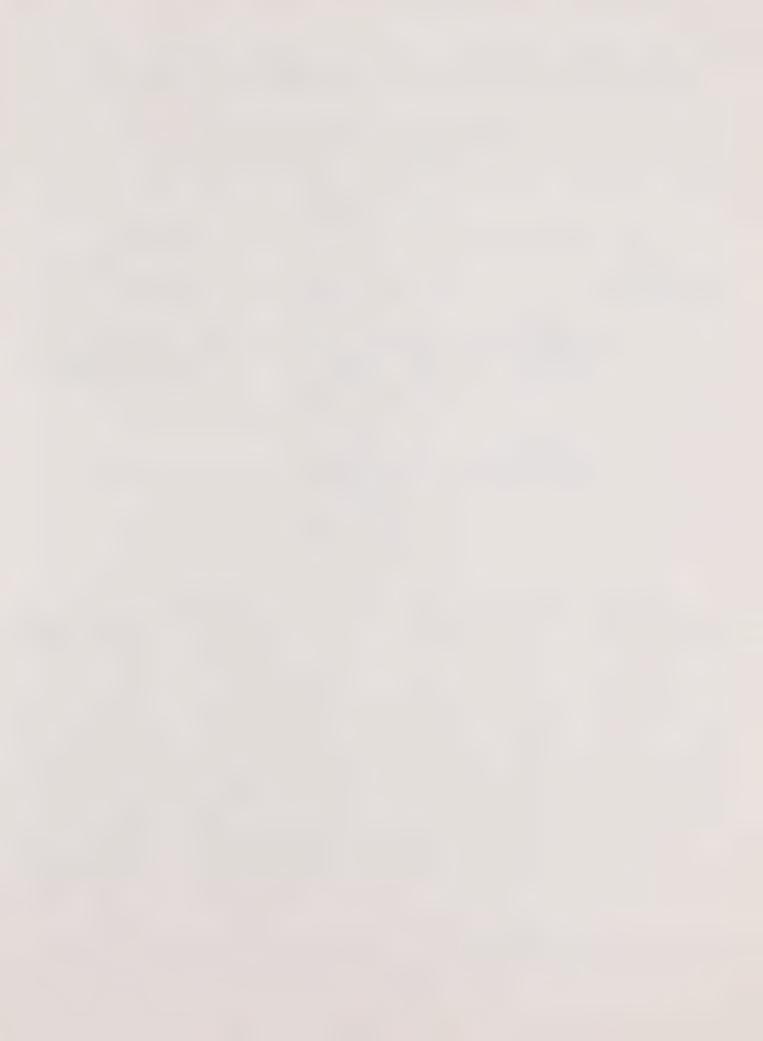
The administrative positions (County Librarian, assistant librarian and four Librarians) generally require graduation from college with a Librarian's Certificate supplemented by working experience. At present the formal education requirements have been waived for two of the four Librarian positions. The principle reason, apparently, is that comparatively low county salaries make recruitment of these professional personnel difficult.

The Branch Librarian positions require only a minimum of two years of college study, supplemented by work experience. Major emphasis of study in library science is preferred but not absolutely required. This lack of required, formal library training has led to a proliferation of marginal performance as all branch librarians hold no accredited library-science degrees. Low salary standards also limit effective recruiting for these positions.

In reality, some of the Branch I station librarians are clerical personnel perfunctorily "tending the store". There are ten branch Librarians I in charge

ALTERNATIVE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE TULARE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

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                    TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

                          COUNTY LIBRARIAN


   BRANCH                  ASST. CO-LIBRARIAN          BUSINESS OFFICE
   COORDINATOR

        EXTENSION              CENTRAL LIBRARY              BOOKMOBILES
        DEPARTMENT

        SHIPPING AND           REFERENCE                    DOCUMENTS AND
        DELIVERY               SERVICES                     HISTORICAL LIBRARY

                               ADULT SERVICES

        ORDER AND              CHILDREN'S
        PROCESSING             SERVICES

        MENDING UNIT           YOUNG ADULT
                               SERVICES

                               ETHNIC AND
                               SPECIAL SERVICES

                               AUDIO-VISUAL AND
                               MEDIA SERVICES


REGIONAL LIBRARY    REGIONAL LIBRARY    REGIONAL LIBRARY    REGIONAL LIBRARY

     BRANCH              BRANCH              STATION             STATION
```

Prepared: Tulare County Planning Department

of the libraries in the following communities: Earlimart, Three Rivers, Woodlake, Ivanhoe, Orosi, Pixley, Strathmore, Terra Bella, Goshen and Poplar. The remaining Library stations with more limited hours of service are attended by part-time library assistants. The mountain stations (5) are ministered by clerks and library assistants.

Problem Identification

Major problem areas relative to staffing can be summarized as follows:

1. The source of the difficulty in recruiting and maintaining personnel in small communities can be traced to low salaries and geographical isolation from urban centers.

2. Non-professional employees will inevitably rely heavily upon rote learning or procedures manuals, rather than developing a creative service attitude toward patrons. Public relations or customer service training is recommended for all county librarians.

3. An upgrading of position qualifications is needed.

4. The immediate institution of an in-training course for librarians is also recommended. Because of the county's rural one-staff operation, an incompetent or disgruntled employee can make or break any particular library.

5. The library system appears to lack a qualified middle manage-
   ment team capable of improving departmental efficiency (workload
   output) and quality control.

Proposed Solutions

It is nearly impossible to attract qualified personnel in the small communities,
resulting in inequities in service and operational diseconomies. Several sug-
gestions which may improve this situation are:

1. The transfer of patronage from certain small branches to larger
   ones would create a sufficient demand to allow the staffing of
   qualified personnel to service the needs of the county.

2. In place of the present policy of hiring an untrained, local
   person to work part-time for a few hours per week, a well-
   qualified librarian should be employed to perform full
   library service for several libraries on a revolving basis.

3. It is further proposed that sufficient resource be made
   available for critically needed internal training programs.
   Such training should be regularly supervised and progress should
   be measured and rewarded. The program should cover all areas
   of need in order of priority. Both new and existing library
   methods and techniques should be studied. Suggestion and indi-
   vidual motivation should be encouraged. Through the use of this
   program, it would be possible to retain a large percentage of

the present, unqualified staff for relocation from the inefficient libraries to those libraries with projected increases in demand and quality of service. Administration, training and motivation of staff members would be considerably easier in larger,more centrally located libraries since the professional librarians would be continuously in contact with the non-professional staff members.

4. Employees of the library system should be employed through competitive examinations, because of their great public impact.

5. There must be promotional opportunities available for library employees in order that motivation, improve public service and better public relations will be pursued by each library representative of Tulare County. If young professional librarians can be encouraged to seek long term employment with Tulare County, their professional growth and in-house training will not be lost to other library systems. An entrance level position is recommended.

Comparative Analysis of Tulare County Library Staff with Other
California Libraries

It has been illustrated that the Tulare County Library System does not provide either the quantity or quality of library staff required to fulfill desired minimal standards. At least, the urban regional service centers should have highly trained librarians administering the daily activities; unfortunately, those branches do not possess professionally trained senior staff.

The Table on the following page demonstrates the library staff problem by comparing the Tulare County's professional staff with all other California libraries servicing 100,000 people or more. Of the 36 libraries inventoried, Tulare County was ranked last with the smallest total number of qualified staff members (5), and the highest ratio of people served per librarian (28,279).

This rating illustrates the effective lack of a middle management staff in the Tulare County Library System. One qualified Tulare County professional, in theory, must serve over 28,000 people as compared to the average ratio of 1:11,000 for those California Libraries shown on the Table.

Even if the urban counties are removed from consideration on the Table and Tulare County is compared to only the rural or semi-rural counties, we would still find Tulare County at the bottom of the ranking. Obviously, improvements are desperately needed to expand the effectiveness of library staffing.

COMPARISON OF TULARE COUNTY'S STAFFING RATIO WITH OTHER CALIFORNIA SYSTEMS

Professional staff complement in California Public Libraries serving over 100,000

Order	Library	Population Served	Full time equivalent professional staff	Number of persons served by one professional librarian
1.	Pasadena Public	125,000	39.5	3,165
2.	Glendale Public	135,600	30.75	4,410
3.	Berkeley Public	120,300	25.	4,812
4.	Oakland Pbulic	385,700	79.7	4,839
5.	San Francisco C&C	748,700	142.1	5,269
6.	Long Beach Public	387,600	63.9	6,066
7.	Santa Cruz C&C	101,250	16.	6,328
8.	San Mateo County	201,892	31.5	6,409
9.	Santa Clara County	297,316	45.5	6,534
10.	San Diego Public	680,500	95.5	7,126
11.	Los Angeles Public	2,896,100	390.	7,426
12.	Contra Costa County	474,470	61.	7,778
13.	Santa Rosa-Sonoma C&C	161,392	19.5	8,277
14.	San Bernardino Public	102,596	11.25	9,120
15.	San Jose Public	412,700	44.	9,380
16.	Alameda County	269,997	25.5	10,588
17.	Kern County	340,700	31.5	10,816
18.	Ventura County	269,806	24.8	10,879
19.	Santa Ana Public	147,200	13.5	10,904
20.	Orange County	619,815	55.	11,269
21.	Fresno County	405,226	34.	11,918
22.	Torrance Public	131,744	11.	11,977
23.	Los Angeles County	2,363,121	195.25	12,103
24.	Santa Barbara C&C	158,117	13.	12,163
25.	Stockton-San Joaquin C&C	260,600	21.	12,410
26.	Solano County	99,607	8.	12,451
27.	Riverside City & Co.	348,681	24.5	14,231
28.	Marin County	130,847	8.5	15,393
29.	Sacramento C&C	631,100	38.9	16,224
30.	Stanislaus County	187,900	11.5	16,339
31.	Merced County	115,200	6.	19,200
32.	San Bernardino County	456,354	21.5	21,226
33.	San Diego County	400,489	18.	22,249
34.	Monterey County	153,156	6.	23,859
35.	Anaheim Public	158,200	6.	26,367
36.	Tulare County	141,396	5.	28,279

Average per/capita ratio   11,883

Tulare County added one professional position in 1972, not included here in order to maintain integrity of comparative statistics. However, other libraries may also have added staffing in the interim. Even so, Tulare County has a professional staff complement only half of the state-wide average.

Source: News Notes of California Libraries, Statistical Issue, Winter 1971. Listed in descending rank order.

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS

The purpose of this section is to evaluate operational costs as a measure of the efficiency and effectiveness of each branch library. This evaluation is basically divided among three cost determinants: (1) the cost of circulating one book one time, (2) the hourly operational costs, and (3) the per capita cost of each library's service area population.

Standards

Standards for these cost factors are, unfortunately, not available for rural library systems. Therefore, it was necessary, within the scope of this study, to develop a set of standards for comparative analysis. This was accomplished by first conducting a survey of other selected rural California County Library Systems* to determine their operational cost standards. All counties (except San Luis Obispo who follow no standards) attempt to follow the Urban Library Standards established by the American Library Association and the California Library Association. However, these standards fail to specify optimum cost levels for the three selected determinates listed above.

Therefore, it was necessary to derive these standards relying upon local professional expertise in the field of Library Science. It was finally determined that the California State Library Survey for the fiscal year 1970-71 would provide the most reasonable basis for analysis. Averages as computed by this survey were:

    ** $1.00 - Average cost to circulate one book one time

      $5.26 - Average per capita cost

No reasonable standard could be evolved for analyzing hourly operational costs because the number of operational hours often vary significantly according to the activity classification (Regional, Area, Community, etc.) of the individual library.

Limitations

There are several limitations which should be recognized before interpretating the cost figures. The limitations are listed as follows:

1. The cost figures do not include the annual depreciation chargeable on capital investments (i.e., furniture, fixtures and equipment owned by the county).

2. No precise division of costs for each branch library are available for books, insurance, cataloging and processing,

_____

* Kern, Fresno, Kings, Inyo, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Merced and San Joaquin.

**The actual average cost determined by the State Survey was $1.01; Staff has taken the liberty to round this figure to $1.00 in order to provide a more convenient means of measurement.

(all the available cost data having been charged in past library budgets to the Central Library). Therefore, it was necessary to derive a formula for distributing these costs among the branches. The formula which was devised does not precisely distribute the costs and should only be considered as an approximation.

3. The equivalent retail costs for all the publicly owned libraries in the county system was calculated in this analysis, but the libraries of Porterville, Tulare and Visalia were not included.

Cost Factor Analysis

In order to provide a realistic basis for comparison, the cost analysis is organized according to Branch classification.

Class B (Area-wide Service Branches): Porterville, Tulare and Visalia.

The following Table indicates the estimated operational cost determinates for Area-wide Class B libraries as computed in fiscal year 1970-71:

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-CLASS B-AREA-WIDE SERVICE

Area Service	*Total Costs	Circu- lation	Cost to Circulate One Book	Hours Open/ Week	Cost per Hour	Population** of Service Area	Costs per Capita
Porterville	$57,614	102,783	$0.56	69	$16.06	34,500	$1.67
Tulare	59,552	95,431	0.62	48	23.86	26,800	2.22
Visalia	151,277	207,893	0.73	62	46.92	40,700	3.72
Totals	$268,443	406,107	$0.65	179	$28.84	102,000	$2.58

Source: Tulare County Planning Department.
 * Does not include space equivalent costs.
** Does not consider service provided by County facilities within City Service Areas.

It is noted that the costs to circulate one book one time is well below the

$1.00 standard for all three libraries. This reflects the economy that may be

achieved by larger branches despite the fact that the hourly costs are rela-

tively high. Per capita costs also fall well below the State average of $5.26

per person.

Class C (Community Branches): Dinuba, Earlimart, Exeter, Lindsay, Orosi,

Woodlake.

The following Table indicates the estimated operational cost determinates for

the Community Branch Libraries as computed for fiscal year 1970-71.

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-CLASS C-COMMUNITY BRANCH LIBRARIES

Community Branches	Total Costs	Circu- lation	Costs to Circulate One Book	Hours Open/ Week	Cost per Hour	Population of Service Area	Costs per Capita
Dinuba	$48,846	59,714	$0.82	56	$16.77	15,325	$3.19
Earlimart	33,320	22,969	1.45	51	12.56	3,500	7.40
Exeter	39,246	32,955	1.19	56	13.48	7,300	5.38
Lindsay	42,951	28,664	1.50	56	14.75	10,800	3.98
Orosi	20,958	7,336	2.85	37.5	10.75	8,400	2.49
Woodlake	33,435	30,903	1.08	51	12.61	5,300	6.31
Totals	$218,756	180,541	$1.21	307.5	$13.68	51,625	4.24

Source: Tulare County Planning Department.

In computing the above costs, it was noted that these libraries reflect, on a

more limited scale, the same economy of larger branch operations. Total and

hourly costs are high but the cost for each book circulated is generally lower

than the other county operated facilities, indicating a certain efficiency

in the cost of the operation. In other words, the high total cost is justified

by high usage. With the exception of the Dinuba Library, all Community Class C

Libraries exceed the $1.00 maximum standard cost for circulating one book one

time. Orosi, with a very low gross circulation, has a correspondingly high

circulation cost, nearly twice that of any other Class C Library. Hourly
costs, however, are significantly lower than Class B Libraries, although per
capita costs are slightly higher. Generally, these cost determinants sig-
nify the lower circulation rates at these branches as compared to Class B
facilities.

Class D (Station Libraries): Farmersville, Ivanhoe, Strathmore, Three Rivers.

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-CLASS D-STATION LIBRARIES

Station Libraries	Total Costs	Circu- lation	Costs to Circulate One Book	Hours Open/ Week	Costs per Hour	Population of Service Area	Costs per Capita
Farmersville	$ 8,039	2,602	$3.09	14	$11.04	4,730	$1.70
Ivanhoe	26,095	12,233	2.13	37.5	13.38	2,800	9.32
Strathmore	20,702	14,958	1.38	37.5	10.62	3,600	5.75
Three Rivers	36,913	25,174	1.47	48.5	14.64	1,500	24.61
Totals	$91,749	54,967	$1.67	137.5	$12.83	12,630	7.26

Source: Tulare County Planning Department

The operational cost factors of the County's Station Class D Libraries begin to
illustrate the discrepancies of small libraries in rural areas. Even though
the hourly costs are slightly lower than the hourly costs for Class C Libraries,
the average cost to circulate one book one time is nearly $0.50 higher. This
means that per capita circulation rates are much lower in these communities
(with the one exception of Three Rivers) than in Class B or C facilities.

Class E (Deposit Stations): Alpaugh, Ducor, Goshen, Pixley, Poplar, Spring-
ville, Terra Bella, Tipton, Woodville, Woodville FLC.

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-CLASS E-DEPOSIT STATIONS

Deposit Stations	Total Costs	Circu- lation	Costs to Circulate One Book	Hours Open Week	Costs per Hour	Population of Service Area	Costs per Capita
Alpaugh	$13,498	4,969	$2.72	15	$17.31	770	$17.53
Ducor	8,173	2,714	3.01	15	10.48	885	9.23
Goshen	11,657	10,000	1.17	14	16.01	1,400	8.33
Pixley	22,334	7,385	3.02	37.5	11.45	2,200	10.15
Poplar	9,167	3,629	2.53	19	9.28	1,500	6.11
Springville	7,441	4,802	1.55	15	9.54	850	8.75
Terra Bella	21,827	10,384	2.10	337.5	11.19	1,960	11.14
Tipton	14,095	5,527	2.55	15	18.07	1,150	12.26
Woodville	4,131	2,776	1.49	*...	...	1,200	6.31
Woodville FLC	4,848	3,735	1.30	9	10.36	600	3.44
Totals	$117,171	55,921	$2.10	177	12.28	12,515	$ 9.36

Source: Tulare County Planning Department

*Note: Since the Woodville Library is lodged within a store, it was not
considered in the hourly operational cost determination. Staff believes
that inclusion of Woodville hourly cost data would result in an un-
realistic representation of total actual costs for Class E Libraries.

Operational costs of Deposit Class E Branches again demonstrate the inability of
small libraries in rural areas to achieve a reasonable economy of scale. Al-
though the hourly costs were lower than Class D facilities, both the costs to
circulate one book one time and the per capita costs were approximately twice
the average State-wide costs.

Class F (Mountain Stations): Giant Forest, Grant Grove, Johnsondale, Mountain
Home, Panorama Heights.

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-CLASS F-MOUNTAIN STATIONS

	Total Costs	Circu- lation	Costs to Circulate One Book	Hours Open Week	Costs per Hour	Population of Service Area	Costs per Capita
*All Mountain Stations	$12,123	4,885	$2.48	NO	DATA	400	$24.25

Source: Tulare County Planning Department

*Note: A lack of data prevents the estimation of hourly costs; also no data, whatsoever, was available for the Mountain Home Station.

The above operational costs may be somewhat misleading in that the population of the service area fluctuates with each season. Total costs for these facilities are the lowest of any of the branch classifications. Notwithstanding these factors, the total costs to circulate one book one time in the Mountain Stations was the highest of all the County Branch Classifications.

Bookmobile

OPERATIONAL COST FACTORS-BOOKMOBILE

	Total Costs	Circu- lation	Costs to Circulate One Book	Hours Open Week	Costs per Hour	Population of Service Area	Costs per Capita
Bookmobile	$36,042	54,674	$0.66	22.5	$30.81	NO	DATA

Source: Tulare County Planning Department

The operational costs of the County Bookmobile compare quite favorably to the average costs of the three city operated Area Service Branches (Class B). For example, it costs only $.01 more than the Area Service Branches to circulate one book one time through the Bookmobile. Hourly costs were only $2.00 higher than in the Class B facilities. This was achieved with a total operating cost which was only 63% of the Class B Library (Porterville) with the lowest cost.

Individual Library Cost Comparisons

When the libraries are arrayed from lowest to highest for the three categories of cost to circulate one book one time, cost per hour and cost per capita (shown on the Tables on the following pages) we find:

1. Only the Dinuba, Porterville, Tulare, Visalia libraries and the Book-mobile are below the $1.00 cost for circulating one book one time. Ten libraries are operating with costs between $1.00 and $2.00. Seven libraries operate at between $2.00 to $3.00, and three libraries cost more than $3.00 to circulate one book.

2. The mean average of the total cost per hour for all twenty-three libraries in the county (including the autonomous city libraries) is $17.00 per hour. Eighteen libraries were found to be below this $17.00 average.

3. There are only nine libraries which fall below the state average cost of $5.26 per capita: Porterville, Farmersville, Tulare, Orosi, Dinuba, WLC, Visalia, Lindsay and Strathmore.

4. The two libraries which have a high or poor rating in all three categories are:

	Cost to Circulate One Book One Time	Cost Per Hour	Cost Per Capita
Tipton	$2.55	$18.07 (15 hrs/ week)	$12.26
Alpaugh	2.72	17.31 (15 hrs/ week	17.53

5. The following fourteen libraries (plus the five mountain stations) have a high or poor rating in either or both of the two critical categories: (Cost per hour varies with the number of hours open per week, and therefore, is not as reliable for comparative purposes).

	Cost to Circulate One Book One Time	Cost Per Capita
Woodlake	$1.08	$ 6.31
Goshen	1.17	8.33
Exeter	1.19	5.38
Strathmore	1.38	5.75
Earlimart	1.45	7.40
Three Rivers	1.47	24.61
Woodville	1.49	6.31
Springville	1.55	8.75
Terra Bella	2.10	11.14
Ivanhoe	2.13	9.32
Mountains (5)	2.48	24.25
Poplar	2.53	6.11
Tipton	2.55	12.26
Alpaugh	2.72	17.53
Ducor	3.01	9.23
Pixley	3.02	10.15

INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES COSTS COMPARISON
(Arrayed from lowest to highest)

Cost to Circulate One Book One Time		Cost Per/Hr.		Hrs. Open Per Week	Cost Per Capita	
Porterville	.56	Poplar	9.28	19	Porterville	1.67
Tulare	.62	Springville	9.54	15	Farmersville	1.70
Bookmobile	.66	Woodville FLC	10.36	9	Tulare	2.22
Visalia	.73	Ducor	10.48	15	Orosi	2.49
Dinuba	.82	Strathmore	10.62	37.5	Dinuba	3.19
		Orosi	10.75	37.5	Woodville FLC	3.44
		Farmersville	11.04	14	Visalia	3.72
Woodlake	1.08	Terra Bella	11.19	37.5	Lindsay	3.98
Goshen	1.17	Pixley	11.45	37.5	Strathmore	4.50
Exeter	1.19	Earlimart	12.56	51		
Woodville FLC	1.30	Woodlake	12.61	51		
Strathmore	1.38	Ivanhoe	13.38	37.5	Exeter	5.38
Earlimart	1.45	Exeter	13.48	56	Poplar	6.11
Three Rivers	1.47				Woodlake	6.31
Woodville	1.49	- - - - - - - - - - - -			Woodville	6.31
Lindsay	1.50	Three Rivers	14.64	48.5	Earlimart	7.40
Springville	1.55	Lindsay	14.75	56	Goshen	8.33
Terra Bella	2.10	Goshen	16.01	14	Springville	8.75
Ivanhoe	2.13	Porterville	16.06	69	Ducor	9.23
Mountain	2.48	Dinuba	16.77	56	Ivanhoe	9.32
Poplar	2.53				Pixley	10.15
Tipton	2.55				Terra Bella	11.14
Alpaugh	2.72	Alpaugh	17.31	15	Tipton	12.26
Orosi	2.85	Tipton	18.07	15	Alpaugh	17.53
Ducor	3.01	Tulare	23.86	48	Mountains	24.25
Pixley	3.02	Bookmobile	30.81	22.5	Three Rivers	24.61
Farmersville	3.09	Visalia	46.92	62		

The horizontal lines crossing through each column signify the position of the state averages (in the case of the first and third column) as related to the costs of each individual library. The solid line disecting the middle column indicates the average (total county) hourly cost of $17.00. The dashed line in the middle column denotes the average hourly cost for county facilities only ($13.71 per hour).

Analysis and Conclusions

Several general conclusions can be drawn from the preceding analysis of the operational cost factors:

1. The smaller branches reflect a higher cost factor for less overall activity. As a general characteristic, they circulate fewer books with a higher per book cost than the larger libraries. This characteristic is especially applicable to Class D and E libraries.

2. The Class C libraries (Community Branches) which are the largest facilities within the County system branches, enjoy a relatively high activity record; yet, the per book circulation cost is moderately high compared to the Class B facilities.

3. A branch-out library system costs considerably more to operate than a central system, due to the cost of moving books nearer to the people. This is done under the hypothesis that people should not have to spend their time and money moving to where the books are permanently located. A compromise solution would be larger permanent book stocks located nearer the people in larger, semi-regional or Service Center libraries.

EXISTING SERVICE AREAS

Each of the 29 libraries in the county attracts and services varying numbers of patrons located within specific geographical areas. The formation of these service or planning areas provides an analytical base for comparing the existing and future service potential for each library.

Purposes for Which Service Areas are Established

Service area population is the overriding consideration in determining the size of the physical facility and its operational efficienty. For example, per capita figures may be used as meaningful yardsticks, such as:

1. Per capita building square footage. (The floor area of the library building in relation to its potential users)

2. Per capita circulation (per person annual book circulation).

3. Tax dollars spent per person for staffing.

4. Tax dollars spent per person for overall library operation.

Determination of Existing Service Areas

The methods used to estimate a library's active service area was based on the responses to several questions related to service areas and travel distance contained in the library users surveys.

The respondent's answers concerning distance from his home to the library were utilized with respect to the definition of library service areas.

The radius of each service area (as shown on the table on the following page) was determined individually by the number of miles which the library users stated that they traveled to use a particular library. From analysis of the survey responses, it was estimated that a theoretical service radius which included the locations of the residences of 85% of those who answered the survey, would in fact cover any significant cluster of library users. It was assumed to be impractical to include each isolated house within a service area. The persons living within these service areas were tabulated as the service area population shown on a population distribution map (prepared by the Planning Department from the 1970 census data).

Overlapping Service Areas

If a rural library system is to supply at least a minimum level of service, its resources cannot be wasted in a costly, inefficient, over-distribution of inadequate service centers. The existing library system in Tulare County has 11 or more overlapping service areas, as depicted on the accompanying map. Patrons have a choice between several library branches, few of which can offer even minimum facilities or services.

Unfortunately, the smaller branches such as Farmersville, whose service areas are overlapped by major libraries, lose patronage to the larger, better equipped facilities. As a result, the smaller branches are forced to operate at an extremely low efficiency rate. Possible solutions to this problem of overlapping service areas are presented in the "Plan Alternatives" section of this report.

Disadvantages of Overlapping Service Areas

1. In overlapping areas where a sufficient number of library patrons fluctuate in their use of several available libraries, an unstable service area base can be created for one or all of the libraries.

2. Where the service areas are thus divided, the smaller and least equipped branch experiences a decrease in circulation and operational efficiency because it can not compete with the larger, better equipped facility.

3. Library resources (books, tapes, films, records, etc.) of branches with overlapping service areas are needlessly duplicated resulting in greater costs to the taxpayer.

4. The limited library resources can not be duplicated in all the small branch libraries, therefore, a patron with several library choices can experience difficulty in finding his material
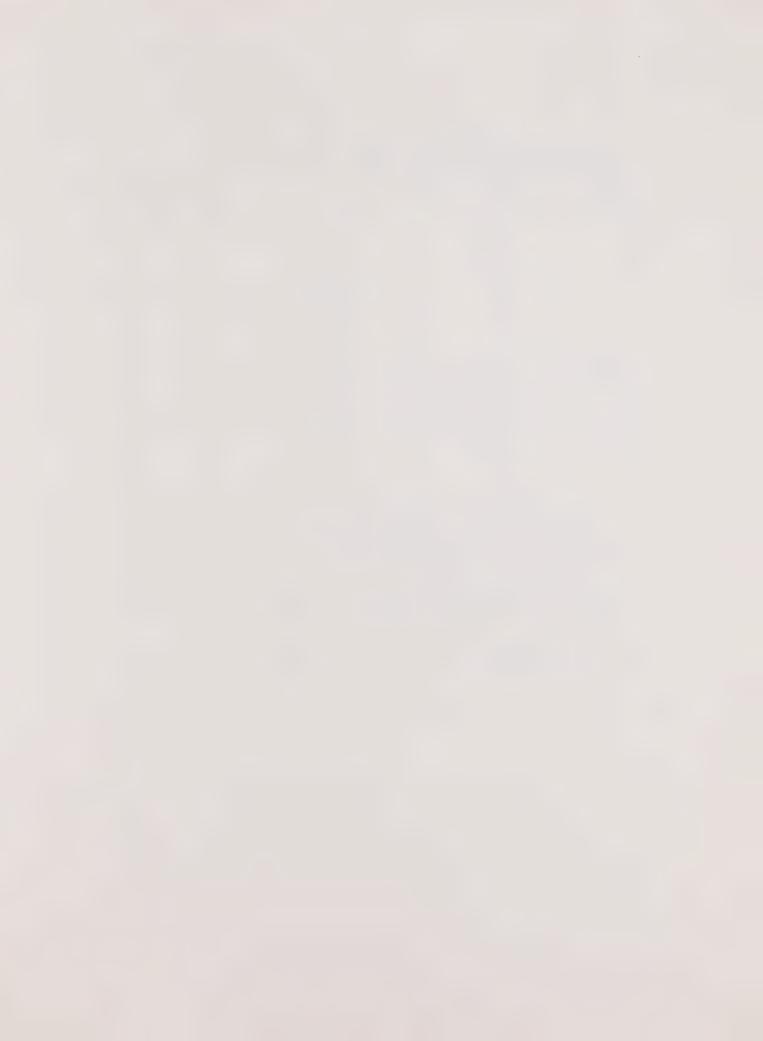
LIBRARY SERVICE AREA RADII

Each Radius includes 85% of the patronage as indicated in the library users surveys rounded to the nearest ¼ mile.
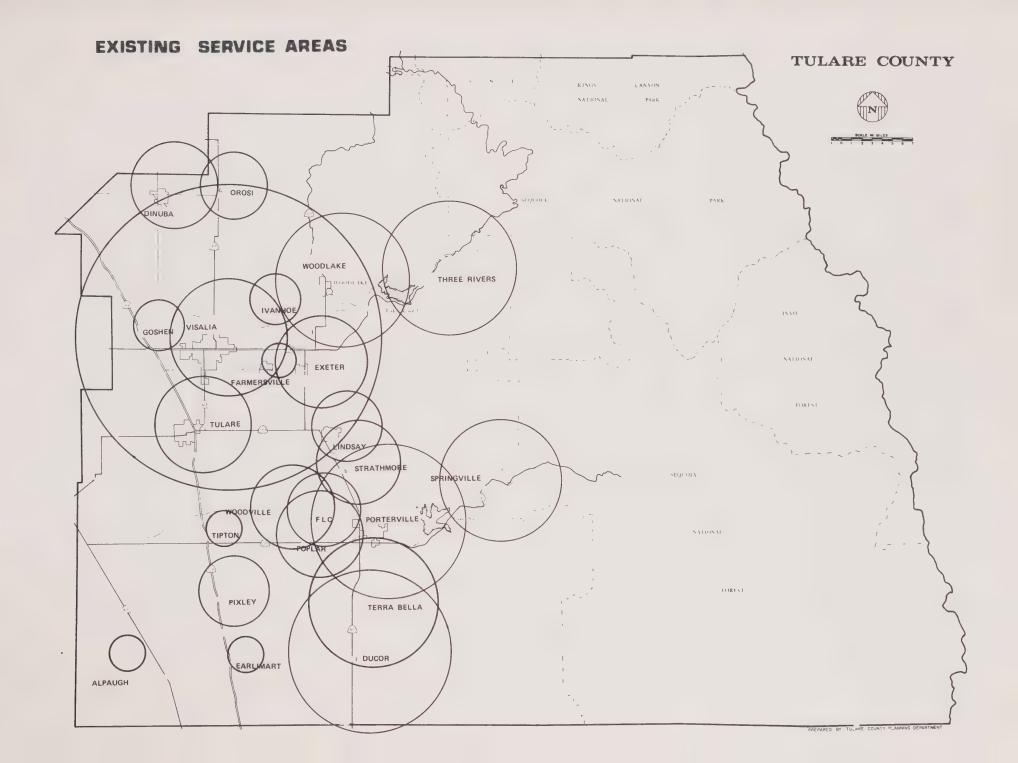
Library	Radius	Library	Radius
Alpaugh	1¾ mi.	**Poplar	8 mi. (4 mi.)
Central	15 mi.	Porterville	8¼ mi.
Dinuba	4½ mi.	Springville	6 mi.
Ducor	8 mi.	Strathmore	4¼ mi.
Earlimart	1½ mi.	Terra Bella	6¼ mi.
Exeter	4½ mi.	Three Rivers	6¾ mi.
Farmersville	1¾ mi.	*Tipton	1½ mi.
*Goshen	2¼ mi.	Tulare	4¾ mi.
Ivanhoe	2¼ mi.	Visalia	5¾ mi.
Lindsay	3½ mi.	Woodlake	6¾ mi.
Orosi	3¼ mi.	*Woodville	4 mi.
Pixley	3¼ mi.	FLC	3¾ mi.

*Number of responses is not sufficient for significant sample of the universe. (Data can only be used as suggestive mild indicators)

**Note the Poplar radius is a substantial deviation from the size of service areas of nearby libraries and is not believed to be a reasonably accurate representation of actual conditions. The radius was adjusted to 4 miles which is similar to the other nearby libraries.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971.

EXISTING SERVICE AREAS

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

KINGS CANYON
NATIONAL PARK

SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK

OROSI

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

WOODLAKE

IVANHOE

INYO

GOSHEN VISALIA

NATIONAL

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

FOREST

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

SEQUOIA

WOODVILLE

FLC PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

NATIONAL

POPLAR

PIXLEY

FOREST

TERRA BELLA

EARLIMART

DUCOR

ALPAUGH

in any one facility. He may visit all the available libraries,
but may still not obtain the service he desires. Rather than
wait for the "Free Request Service" to locate and deliver the
volumes to him, the patron may obtain faster, more complete,
service by visiting a larger, better equipped, more centrally
located facility.

Service Area Populations

The only available standard for minimum service area population is the Calif-
ornia Library Association 1958 standard of 7,500 persons. If this standard
was applied to Tulare County Libraries, only Central, Dinuba, Lindsay, Orosi,
Porterville, Tulare and Visalia would qualify. Under the existing situation,
this standard does not appear practical for adoption by Tulare County.

Without such a standard, a point of reference or an analytical division line
is suggested for the review of the relative population of each service area.
The following discussion considers the list of service areas population by
dividing them into groups above or below 3,000 persons and 1,500 persons.
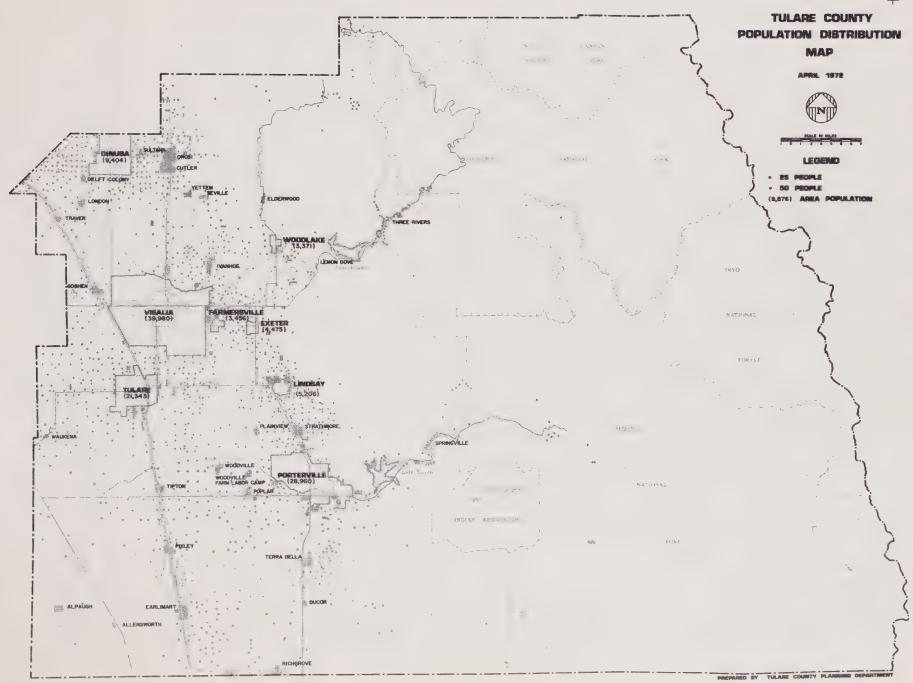
If the total book circulation for all libraries in Tulare County is divided
by the total population, the resulting average is that each person would bor-
row 2.3 books per year. If the minimum standard of 7,000 book volumes for
the smallest library branch (Deposit Station) is divided by the 2.3 average,
the answer so created would equal approximately 3,000 persons. It is under-
stood that this figure has been subjectively established, and that numerous
variables have not been considered.

Twelve libraries have service areas with less than 3,000 persons. The combined population of these twelve libraries is 16,815 persons, or an average of approximately 1,400 persons. According to the populations projections contained in the Table on the following page, none of these twelve libraries will obtain a service area population of 3,000 persons by 1990. In fact, the projected 1990 combined population is only 20,365 persons or an average per library of approximately 1,700 persons. The average increase over this 20 year period would be only 300 persons. Two of the libraries are projected for decreases in population by 1990.

Again, if the 3,000 population figure is divided in half, there are nine libraries with service area populations of 1,500 persons or less. The combined 1970 population of these nine libraries is 9,855 persons, or an average of 1,095 persons per service area. By 1990, seven of these libraries still do not have 1,500 persons. The 1990 combined population is 7,131 persons or an average of 1,018 persons.

The purpose of these calculations is to suggest that serious consideration should be given to the question of how long the county should continue the present library facilities and service to certain libraries with very limited service area populations.

In contrast with the above analysis, there are eleven libraries with existing service area populations in excess of 3,000 persons. Their combined 1970 population is 160,955 persons or an average of 14,632 persons. This will increase by 1990 to a combined total of 216,503 persons.

LEGEND

- 25 PEOPLE
- 50 PEOPLE
(9,876) AREA POPULATION

DINUBA
(9,404)

SULTANA   OROSI
CUTLER

DELFT COLONY

YETTEM
SEVILLE

ELDERWOOD

LONDON

TRAVER

THREE RIVERS

WOODLAKE
(3,371)

IVANHOE

LEMON COVE

GOSHEN

VISALIA
(39,980)

FARMERSVILLE
(3,456)

EXETER
(4,475)

TULARE
(21,343)

LINDSAY
(5,206)

WAUKENA

PLAINVIEW   STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

WOODVILLE
FARM LABOR CAMP

POPLAR

PORTERVILLE
(28,960)

TIPTON

INDIAN RESERVATION

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

ALPAUGH

EARLIMART

DUCOR

ALLENSWORTH

RICHGROVE

INYO

NATIONAL

FOREST

NATIONAL

FORE

SERVICE AREA POPULATION PROJECTIONS

BRANCH	1970 population	Per-cent increase	1980 population	Per-cent increase	1990 population
ALPAUGH	770	-22.2	600	-33.3	400
CENTRAL *	40,000	50.0	60,000	33.3	80,000
DINUBA	15,325	5.4	16,153	5.9	17,106
DUCOR	885	13.6	1,005	13.3	1,139
EARLIMART	3,500	7.1	3,749	6.1	3,978
EXETER	7,300	2.8	7,504	2.7	7,707
FARMERSVILLE	4,730	2.4	4,844	2.7	4,975
GOSHEN	1,400	40.4	1,966	29.0	2,536
IVANHOE	2,800	2.0	2,856	2.6	2,930
LINDSAY	10,800	4.6	11,297	4.9	11,851
OROSI	8,400	35.0	11,340	13.8	12,905
PIXLEY	2,200	20.0	2,640	10.5	2,820
POPLAR	1,500	-7.2	1,392	-3.7	1,341
PORTERVILLE	34,500	14.7	39,512	16.1	45,942
SPRINGVILLE	850	26.6	1,076	11.7	1,248
STRATHMORE	3,600	10.6	3,982	11.1	4,424
TERRA BELLA	1,960	0.6	1,971	0.9	1,988
THREE RIVERS	1,500	13.1	1,982	66.5	2,980
TIPTON	1,150	5.8	1,217	0.5	1,221
TULARE	26,800	13.8	30,498	14.3	34,859
VISALIA	40,700	26.0	51,382	30.8	67,156
WOODLAKE	5,300	2.5	5,432	3.0	5,600
WOODVILLE	1,200	-1.0	1,182	0	1,182
F. L. C.	600	0	600	0	600
TOTAL	177,770		204,176		236,888

*Central Branch not included in total.

Difference between service area population and total county population is reflected in the Central Branch service area.
Note: (1) Per-cent increases taken from the Tulare County Water and Sewer Report.
       (2) Three Rivers and Ivanhoe have been adjusted to more accurately reflect population growth.
       (3) 6% deficient service area population from 1970 county population to be absorbed by Central Branch.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November, 1971

The libraries of the three cities of Porterville, Tulare and Visalia have a combined 1970 service area population of 102,000 persons as compared with the remaining libraries with the County Library System of 75,770 persons. The 1990 comparison of service area population is 147,957 persons for the cities and 88,931 persons for the county.

These projections make it quite clear, that the existing, large, gap between the urban and rural library system, as with most other public resources, will continue to create greater service difficulties.

LOCATIONAL SITE AND DESIGN CRITERIA

In the same sense that locational factors are considered crucial to the operational success of a retail shopping center, it is commonly agreed that the location of a library is a leading factor in its usage. In Tulare County, however, there appears to be serious divergencies of opinion concerning optimum library locations. In fact, the matter of locational suitability, does not appear to have ever been seriously considered as evidenced by the fragmented development and service area considerations of the County's library system. For example, some of the libraries are located in residential areas, city parks, on school grounds or adjacent to fire stations. The selection of library sites throughout the years seems to have been based upon the costs of acquiring property and construction of facilities. Nevertheless, the contemporary consensus of library professionals is that libraries should be centrally or strategically located in or near commercial areas, shopping centers, or wherever large numbers of people congregate. This is based upon a belief that the majority of library users will combine their library visits with other recreational or shopping trips, etc. Contrary to popular opinion, the practice of locating libraries within a governmental complex in most instances, is unwise, as very often the center is removed from the major flow of traffic making it difficult to combine the library visit with shopping. In peripheral or rural areas, site locations in proximity to arterials or intersecting highways is desirable. Local behaviorial and trip patterns should be observed and tested before site selections are made.

The following is a list of locational criteria for the selection of Library Sites as recommended in the "Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems, 1966", (American Library Association, Chicago, 1967):

1. Locate branch library accessible to the ultimate population it will service for a period of at least 25 years.

2. Locate branches where there is a sufficient service area population to justify a comprehensive book stock, and related programs.

3. Branches should be located some distance from the Central or other large urban libraries to avoid overlapping and duplicated functions.

4. The site should be located where people naturally converge (shopping center, neighborhood business district, etc.). Parks and wooded areas are often unsuitable.

5. Location should have at least a one-mile radius of maximum attraction, and a 2 to 3 mile radius of influence.

6. The location should be on or near an important traffic intersection on a well-traveled thoroughfare. Library use suffers 10% loss of circulation for every city block separating the library from a high traffic, commercial or business center.

7. The branch should be clearly visible to people as they walk or drive in the course of their routine activities.

8. The branch location should be such that people of all social and economic backgrounds are encouraged to use the facility.

9. The site must be large enough for a suitable building and adequate parking. (e.g., Building of 9,000 - 10,000 square feet needs at least 12,000 square feet with walk and approaches, a delivery point with a driveway, parking for a few staff cars, space for property line set-backs.) A minimum of one-half acre is suggested. At least 150 foot of frontage is recommended for a functional and attractive layout.

10. Branches should be located near large residential districts. They should be sufficiently accessible to allow children living within walking distance to visit the library without crossing highly traveled, uncontrolled arterial streets.

11. Probable future use of the site and adjacent areas must be considered:

   a. Is the area subject to redevelopment?
   b. Are there special zone changes contemplated by property owners?
   c. What neighborhood developments are planned?
   d. Will the neighborhood suffer from blight in predictable future?
   e. Are there special building code restrictions?

12. A proposed site could be tested for potential usage by using a bookmobile, or by renting quarters on a short lease basis.

13. The site should be sufficiently level to allow building at ground level. Steps are inconvenient, and difficult for handicapped and elderly people to use.

14. Location should be based upon a careful survey of the community potential service area, including:

   a. Total density of population.

   b. Age levels of the residents.

   c. Racial composition and origins, occupations, educational level, economic level, (average income).

   d. Number and kind of schools in the area, other library facilities.

   e. Commercial book outlets, rate of growth, etc.

15. Location within a single, compact housing development should be avoided.

16. Underground features such as the condition of soil and rock should be determined. Test borings should be made. The building must have uniform foundation material to carry the heavy load of books. Homogenous rock stratum or uniform soil condition provides the best base.

In addition to these site criteria, the staff recommends the adoption of the following precise standards:

Service Area Range

1. Radius of approximately one to five miles depending on relation to road network, population characteristics and distribution.

2. Serving minimum population of approximately 3,000.

Site Requirements

Minimum site of 3/4 to one acre would provide for adequate off-street parking, loading area, bookmobile operations and possible future expansion.
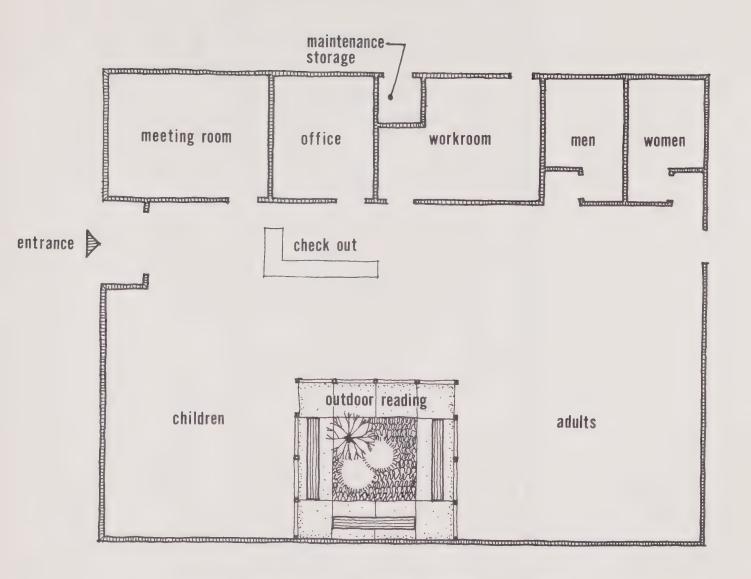
Fixed and Portable Facilities Concept

As indicated throughout this study, Tulare County's population distribution pattern is rapidly shifting in the direction of urban area population concentration. Some unincorporated service communities are in a state of decline while others remain virtually static; still others will continue to grow at only moderate rates. In light of these uncertainties there is a need to employ a facility location strategy which will permit some form of continued service to declining communities or those whose condition in terms of growth is somewhat fluid.

The Fixed and Portable Facilities Concept will, in part, respond to this challenge. This proposal assumes that permanent, well designed branch facilities will be

located only within viable service centers while temporary, portable structures (in conjunction with bookmobile service) would be located within declining areas or communities experiencing sudden growth changes due to the impact of specific projects (e.g. Nuclear Reactor, Mineral King, etc.). It is also recommended that portable facilities be placed in those areas within which we desire to test the need for a permanent branch. Illustrative examples of both the permanent and portable facilities containing recommended minimum functional areas and equipment are found on the following pages.

maintenance
storage

meeting room

office

workroom

men

women

entrance ▷

check out

children

outdoor reading

adults

ILLUSTRATIVE - SCHEMATIC PLAN
FIXED LIBRARY BRANCH

RURAL AREA

SIZE: 3,000 - 6,000 SF
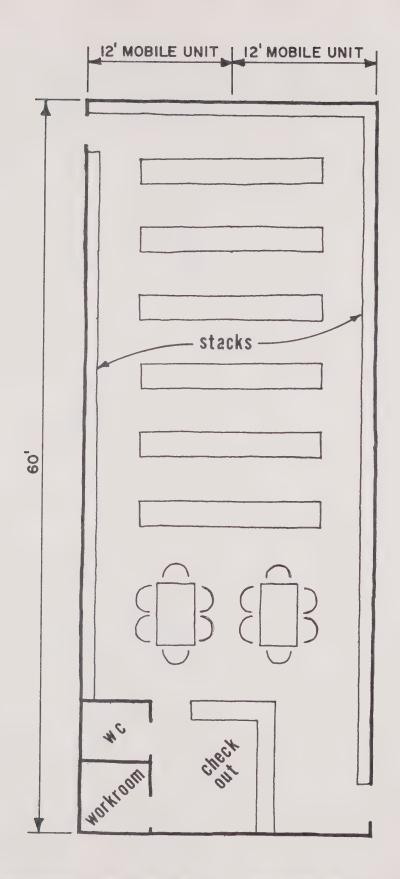
BOOK STOCK CAPACITY: 12,000 - 25,000

URBAN AREA

SIZE: 6,000 - 15,000 SF

BOOK STOCK CAPACITY: 25,000 - 50,000

12' MOBILE UNIT | 12' MOBILE UNIT

60'

stacks

WC

workroom

check out

ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN - PORTABLE BRANCH

SIZE: 1440 SF

BOOK STOCK CAPACITY: 6,800

Chapter 5

Toward An Administrative Structure

CHAPTER V

TOWARD AN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

One of the fundamental objectives of the library master planning program is
to focus the attention of the public and our elected decision makers on an
evaluation of alternative administrative or operational systems. The current
structure of the County Library System is predicated upon an overriding
local legislative philosophy which assumes local delivery of services
to all county residents in all areas with an emphasis on convenience of
physical access characterized by a multi-facility system offering consist-
ently limited, but nearby, services.

As mentioned earlier in this study, the 1970 census has shown, quite con-
clusively however, that an accelerating redistribution of in-county population
from rural to urban areas is taking place. It is estimated that by 1990, 78%
of the county's inhabitants will reside within cities and urban areas. This
rapid population shift will ultimately result in the isolation of many
branch libraries within stagnated or dying communities. Retention of
physical access as a major criteria for the distribution system in this
case implies an overdistribution of resources in limited quantity, neglect
of major focal areas, and a predictable high cost for maintenance of lightly
used multiple physical facilities. The ensuing section consists of a pro
and con discussion of various optional administrative and organizational
systems.

Within the existing legal structure (pertaining to the operation of public

libraries in the State of California), five basic alternative approaches exist for the government of the public library program. Currently the existing county organization relies on enabling legislation for county libraries in California Education Code Sections 27151-27271, and functions within the framework of a general law county. The municipal libraries of Visalia, Porterville, and Tulare follow enabling legislation pursuant to Education Code Sections 27301-27456 but, as charter cities, each may employ unique administrative techniques as outlined in their respective charters. Three other organizational options exist, none of which applies to the current situation, but nevertheless are available as alternative possibilities for a future administrative framework. One of these is the library district, with a legal basis lodged in Education Code Sections 27751-27963. A second provides for library districts in unincorporated towns and villages under Education Code Sections 27501-27665, but is not considered here as this framework excludes consideration of cities currently receiving county library services, being restricted in application to unincorporated rural areas. The third, allows Unified School District Public Libraries and Union High School District Public Libraries under Education Code Sections 28001-28652.

The major number of alternatives for restructuring of the present system rest within the existing legal framework and are reviewed in this section. It should be remembered, however, that such a review cannot be inclusive of all alternatives and that the variety of arrangements available to local governments through the Exercise of Joint Powers Agreements may offer considerable variation in administrative and organizational design.

I.   Alternatives within existing governmental structure.

      a.   Legal basis - County Libraries - Municipal Libraries.

      b.   Governing board - County Board of Supervisors - City Library Boards, City Councils.

      c.   Tax limitation - $.30 per $100 accessed valuation.

      d.   Establishment - Existing basis - some combination under Joint Exercise of Powers.

Alternative No. 1.   Continuation of existing county and city structure with no major modifications.

Characteristics: County headquarters providing administrative and special services only. Multi-branch system with diffusion of materials and limited local level service. Possible headquarters storage of materials and major mail or delivery-supported backup services involving extensive relocation and reassignment of materials. Immediate fulfillment of common subject needs and recreational demands but predominantly secondary fulfillment of more specific patron needs and requests. Extensive centralized county support staff. City libraries independent and self-contained.

Advantages:

A.   Some minimal level of service available to nearly all residents within close proximity.

B.   Considerable service conveniently available to local schools.

C. Despite quantitative limitation of collection, considerable opportunity to tailor materials available to specific local interests.

D. Close library-community relationship and awareness, potential for interaction with community institutions and programs.

E. Maximum personal relationship between library staff and clientele.

F. Independent higher level services in urban areas supporting independent libraries with significant local control.

G. Convenient input into back-up services and entire state network for county and Tulare City patrons.

Disadvantages:

A. Marked disparity between services offered to urban and rural residents due to great disparity of present fiscal support efforts.

B. High cost of rural operation - idle plant and staff time. Large capital outlay and investment in terms of productive use. Increased administrative costs for many units.

C. High cost of support staff at county headquarters and in all functions to secondary level service. At maximum with this program.

D. Poor immediate temporal access - short hours - in county branches, with county program characterized by scattering of weak units without focal strength at any point accessible to the public.

E. County program handicapped by problems in recruiting and training competent personnel in small communities and by the problem involved in lack of exposure to public service program on the part of key central support staff.

F. County program focused on casual recreational needs with neglect of more serious educational and vocational concerns and inquiries as a first-hand service.

G. County assumption of school-related responsibilities without fiscal transfer.

H. County program characterized by poor quantitative and qualitative access at any one point.

I. County funds expended on duplication rather than on extension of materials and programs.

J. Duplication between city and county resources, staff, and programs.

K. No access to higher level services in the state network for patrons of Visalia and Porterville Public Libraries.

L. Cost advantage of size of operation beneficial to county program is not enjoyed by small city units.

M. Poor correlation of city and county services. Least collective and effective use of city and county tax funds.

N. Jurisdictional barriers to patron access to joint or combined collections and services.

O. Public "logic" expects more rational integration of library services. Major portion of public does not understand fiscal sources for operation of the present four libraries. Often confused and/or frustrated in attempting to make best

use of all available resources. General concern is with
receipt of services as directly as possible as needed and
regardless of jurisdiction.

Alternative No. 2. Continue existing city and county structure with upgrading
of facilities and services in all existing county branches.

Added characteristics: Planned branch facilities development with
long-range capital outlay program and replacement of existing physical
facilities. Expansion of available space and collection. Staff up-
grading and development. Some ability of county to improve program
through control of physical facilities in larger cities receiving
county services.

Advantages:

A. Improvement in immediately available local resources. Quanti-
tative increase.

B. Some approach to correction of disparity in county services
when current facility clearly does not meet service area needs.

C. Possible reassignment and relocation of county materials now
stored at headquarters, improving current public access.

D. Some saving in secondary activities through location of suf-
ficient material pools in areas of demand.

E. Greater patron ease, comfort, and attraction to revitalized
county facilities. Improved programming potential - possibly
extend service expansion into new areas.

Disadvantages:

A. Increased cost over Alternative No. 1 for maintenance of the
    same number, but physically improved facilities.

B. Possible diffusion of central collection, increasing prob-
    lems in searching, locating, and delivering requested
    materials to county branches.

C. Greater potential loss of county investment in capital
    projects through continuing plant idle time.

Alternative No. 3. Continue existing city and county structure with upgrading
                    by establishment of county regional service branches.
                    Combined with Alternative 2 as desired.

Added characteristics: Four or five strong major libraries in stra-
tegic locations to provide geographical access for all areas of the
county. Branches retained as satellite services. Possible book-
mobile operation from each of regional branches.

Advantages:

A. Improvement in physical access for county residents through
    appropriate focal service points with enhanced staff and
    materials resources at reasonable travel distance from home.

B. Improvement in temporal access to resources assuming longer
    service hours in new facilities.

C. Improvement in quantitative access through the larger resource.

D. Assumed upgrading of staff and staff services in these county
    regional branches.

E. Reduced dependence on county headquarters services, less
    secondary cost.

Disadvantages:

A. Greater cost caused by the duplication of considerable
    quantity of materials.

B. Possible diffusion of central collection.

C. Very high cost.

D. Duplication of regional branches and city library programs
    possible in nearby areas.

E. Natural locations, the urban population centers, ignored
    if county sole agent.

Comment: Major disadvantages of this program could be obviated
by including city libraries in a cooperative or consolidated system
as regional branches.

Alternative No. 4. Continue existing organization with the addition of fully
                    operative and upgraded central library program. Could be
                    combined with Alternative Nos. 1, 2 or 3 above.

Added Characteristics: Local program with a major centralized and
highly sophisticated and focused resource utilizing all special
collections, staff and services in addition to an expanded central
collection located in an appropriately sized physical facility.

Advantages:

A. Significant secondary level service at a distance from some,
    but available to all county residents.

B. Good temporal access - long hours.

C. Excellent quantitative access.

D. Excellent qualitative access - wide span of selection, high
    level staff.

E. Proper establishment of an appropriate potential system
    resource library as indicated for Tulare County in the Calif-
    ornia Library Network Master Plan, 1971, and earlier indicated
    other statewide regional service plans and recommendations.

F. Most effective possible framework for administration, extension,
    and staff services.

Disadvantages:

A. Highest overall operating cost.

B. Continuing defect in local county rural programs.

C. Trend to self-access to secondary level, but continuing need
    for extensive backup service to local delivery at many points.

Comment: Use of city facilities or joint development of new facili-
ties in independent cities or even in cities served now would sig-
nificantly reduce costs.

<u>Alternative No. 5</u>.　Continue existing organization in county but dissolve city
libraries as independent agencies (Educ. Code 27455).　In-
tegrate city services under county management.　(Optional
addition of Alternatives 1, 2, 3.)　Consolidate libraries.

<u>Added characteristics</u>:　A total county-wide library system under one
administration with integration of program.　City facilities could
be incorporated as a central library, regional branches, or larger
urban branches.　Consolidation with Visalia would provide a major
central library in this city.

<u>Advantages</u>:

A.　Economical overall use of all tax funds through avoidance
of duplication in administration, staff, and collections.

B.　Best use of all existing facilities and major strengthening
of service program offered to all residents.

C.　Upgrading of service through greater potential of larger
organization.

D.　Operational savings through greater potential of larger
organization.

E.　Lowest cost of all alternatives for an upgraded service
package.

F.　As in Alternative No. 4, significant secondary level service,
good temporal access, excellent quantitative and quali-
tative access.

G. As in Alternative No. 4, appropriate indication and placing
    of a potential system resource library.

H. Elimination of boundary and fiscal support disparities.

I. Strong service for all with proper tie-in to state service
    network and third and fourth level resources.

J. Highest priority building grant potential and high
    priority future service grant potential as state master
    plan is implemented.

K. Lower tax cost for city residents.

Disadvantages:

A. Initial cost for consolidation of materials, records of
    holdings, catalogs, etc. (May be partly covered by grant
    fundings.)

B. Some problem in adjustment of positions, staff salaries,
    incumbent administrators, etc.

C. Some compromise of variant local service philosophies, ways
    and means, etc.

D. Somewhat higher tax cost for county residents.

Comment: One, two, or all three cities could be involved in such
a program. Best consolidation grant advantages are for libraries
already within systems (now Tulare City and Tulare County).

Alternative No. 6. Continue existing legal structure for county library but
                    contract with one city for administration of the library
                    program. (Educ. Code 27163)

Added characteristics: Any of the Alternatives outlined in Nos. 2, 3, 4 or 5.

Advantages:

A. Library operation centralized in logical location in primary population center.

B. Most alternatives for facilities and services reorganization remaining open.

C. Reduction in cost areas in administration, duplication of materials, staff, etc.

D. Tax reduction for city residents.

Disadvantages:

A. The larger population served (county) would have least voice in respect to services despite larger fiscal input and demand.

B. Possible tendency to overemphasize urban centered programs, thus limiting resources available for rural service programs.

C. County control of cost limited by city-determined service level.

D. Considerable possibility of losing system (SJVLS) partici-pation and input into state network.

E. Higher tax cost for county residents - possibly not met by convenient and upgraded local services.

F. Some continuing city-county conflicts.

G. Problem of non-contracting cities still unresolved.

Alternative No. 7.   Continue existing legal structure for county library but
          contract with all three independent cities for adminis-
          tration of the library program.   (Educ. Code 27163)

Added characteristics: County divided into logical boundaries
by use patterns and each of the cities providing services within
that area of which they are the center.

Advantages:

A.   Correction of urban fringe, urban conflicts in financing
     and services.

B.   Some area local interest and control.

C.   Regional organization advantages as outlined in Alternative No. 3.

D.   Some lower cost to city residents, but not as great as in Al-
     ternative No. 6.

Disadvantages:

A.   Loss of fiscal economy based on largest possible organ-
     ization.

B.   Considerable duplication among three structures.

C.   Possible disparity of services between the three areas -
     overlapping service boundary and fiscal conflicts.

D.   County not in control of cost and tax as these would be
     primarily determined by city service level.

E.   Rural neglect entirely possible with no strong rural
     voice.

F.   Higher cost to county residents and possibly considerably

higher than Alternative No. 6 as total parallel program costs

are predictably higher.

G.   State network services available through one city but not

through two others.

Alternative No. 8.   All existing libraries contract with one city within county

or contract with another city outside county or another

county.   (Educ. Code Sections 27158 and 27159)

Added Characteristics: Within county arrangement similar to

Alternative No. 6.

Advantages:

A.   Resolves problem of non-contracting cities.

B.   Lower overall cost.

Disadvantages:

A.   Strong control by one city, loss of voice for others.   All

three contracting agencies subject to determination of pro-

gram cost by major agent.

B.   Possible weaker rural voice than in alternatives already

discussed.

Added Characteristics: Outside county arrangement similar

to Alternative No. 6.

Comment: No strong city in area suitable for contract. Strong counties (Kern and Fresno) likely to see difficulties with larger geographical area, could neglect county interests. Higher level of service predictable as is higher tax cost. Might be some saving to city residents.

Added Characteristics: Reversal of outside contract. City within Tulare County or Tulare County contracting to provide service outside county.

Comment: Possibly feasible arrangement with Hanford or Kings County. Would add size efficiency for agencies concerned without major geographical problems or distinct localized changes. Might resolve administrative problems facing other agencies while providing greater strength to total organization.

General Remarks on Alternatives 1 - 8:

Any arrangement above which continues existing county structure could be augmented by establishment of a Library Commission representing, as the alternative suggests, either county, or city-county, residents. Such a commission could contribute to solution of disadvantages regarding representation of urban-rural interests, and would relieve legislative bodies of major need to focus on problems. Commission would reduce areas of conflict and, by incorporating a measure of direct citizen involvement, would provide additional feed-in and direction as well as support to any alternative chosen.

II. Alternatives incorporating other legal structure.

Alternative No. 9. Dissolve all existing libraries. Establish one county-
wide library district.

a. Legal basis - Education Code Sections 27751-27963.

b. Governing board - Three or more members - Indepen-
dent district(s) .

c. Tax limitation - $.15 per $100 accessed valuation.

d. Establishment - By petition to the Board of Supervisors.

e. Disestablishment (existing) County - BOS action, Cities -
On request of 51% of the electors.

Characteristics: Operation similar to consolidated county system
or contractual system with one city operating. However, separate
board would administer rather than existing legislative bodies.

Advantages:

A. All characteristics of single county system or single
system including entire county and administered by one
city through contractural arrangements. Primarily ad-
vantages of Alternative No. 5.

Disadvantages:

A. Major disadvantage in tax limitation to $.15. Review
of current tax rates would suggest that this limitation
renders this alternative rather impractical.

B. Creation of a separate agency will present a problem in
    coordination of this service and costs of this service
    with other government programs and priorities.

C. In general the proliferation of special districts is
    not regarded with favor by political scientists.

D. In rural areas the "talent pool" from which numerous
    local boards can be selected is often rather limited.

Alternative No. 10. Dissolve all existing libraries. Divide county
                     into areas incorporating major population centers
                     and establish several library districts. Legal
                     structure, etc., same as Alternative No. 9, a,
                     b, c, d, e.

Characteristics: Organization similar to alternative (7) with many
of the stated advantages and disadvantages.

Added Advantages:

A. Larger measure of local control.

Added Disadvantages:

A. Tax limitation to $.15 as in (9).

B. Greater fracturing, more agencies, boards, etc.

<u>Alternative No. 11</u>. Dissolve all existing libraries. Establish library service through School Districts.

    a. Legal basis - Education Code Sections 28001-28652.

    b. Governing board - School district boards.

    c. Tax limitation - none given.

    d. Establishment - By petition to BOS for election and then by a two-thirds majority vote of the electorate within the district.

    e. Disestablishment (existing) County - BOS action, Cities - On request of 51% of the electors.

<u>Characteristics</u>: Union High School Districts or Unified School Districts responsible for provision of library services within the district. Other characteristics similar to (7).

<u>Added Advantages</u>:

A. Greatest possible measure of local control.
B. Possible combination of school and public library services, facilities and programs.

<u>Added Disadvantages</u>:

A. Loss of efficiency and economy through fracturing of service into many small units.
B. Obvious general disparity of service levels throughout county.

C. Possible loss of non-student clientele interest because of school-oriented focus.

D. Conflict between library use of school district funds and school use needs and pressures.

E. Possible conflict if new state equalization developed and special allowance were not made for public library functions assumed in the state by only a very few school districts.

G. Ignores state library planning which encourages consolidation of current existing library units.

H. School-public library combinations often face restrictions in acquisitions which are student-evaluated. Freedom to select materials for all ages, including the majority adult population, is often hampered, particularly if the library is placed within the school.

I. Such an alternative is dependent upon the electors of each district involved and extremely difficult of adoption overall.

Some of these administrative alternatives have been translated into physical planning concepts which are explored in the section concerning "Alternative Plan Concepts".

Chapter 6

Library Systems Plan
Alternatives

CHAPTER VI

LIBRARY SYSTEMS PLAN ALTERNATIVES

A comprehensive appraisal of present and projected library facility needs
was based on: (1) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the existing system
in physical and administrative terms, (2) an analysis of 1970 population
distributions, and (3) a 1990 forecast of land use activity and population
growth.

Existing System

The strengths and limitations of the current system in terms of its relation
to existing development patterns has been documented throughout the body of
this report. However, to recapitulate the significant findings: (1) Most
facilities were found to be underdeveloped in terms of their ability to
provide a reasonably adequate range of contemporary library services; (2)
Some branches were found to be more than adequate for the communities and
service areas served, and (3) The existing system is characterized by an in-
efficient distribution pattern -- an overextension of resources resulting in
inefficient administrative operations and an inability to provide in-depth
service. It is simply not compatible with either current land use configur-
ation or desired future growth strategies.

Future Service Needs

A forecast of the 1990 population which could be served by the County-wide

System (includes city facilities) indicates that the total service population
may increase approximately 66,500 or 35%. It was felt that the methods used
in appraising library requirements, the population characteristics and dis-
tribution, as well as other planning implications required a distinction
between the consideration of urban area and rural needs.

Development Constraints

Certain policy decisions by the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Com-
mission emanating from a desire to protect and manage the county's fragile
open space, agricultural and other environmental resources and recent changes
in the thrust of State and Federal Legislation have led to the exploration
of the establishment of a resource management and growth strategy resulting
in shaping the magnitude and direction of urban growth. The following are
some of the more significant factors which serve to influence land use and
resource management policy decisions:

1. The adoption by the Local Agency Formation Commission of
    the "Sphere of Influence" concept. The Planning Commission
    has adopted a concurrent policy of recognizing these lines as
    ultimate urban area expansion or urban limit lines. This
    has injected a greater degree of certainty into the com-
    munity development process.

2. Recently adopted regulations by the State Regional Water
    Quality Control Board requiring community sewerage systems
    or other devices to protect water quality for all intensive
    developments.

3. Pending Flood Plain regulation programs by the State Reclamation Board and the Federal Government which may limit urban expansion in flood prone areas.

4. Changes in State and local land division regulations and zoning policies requiring environmentally sound development.

5. The employment of the Williamson Act which completely curtails urban land use activities within all agricultural preserves.

6. The State-mandated open space and conservation programs requiring counties and cities to adopt an open space preservation plan and attendant zoning regulations and action programs.

7. Federal and State requirements for local government to identify critical housing problems and adopt plans and action programs to ameliorate these issues.

8. A resurgence of interest and a growing level of awareness of the agricultural community and citizenry-at-large regarding the necessity to wisely manage our air, water and land resources.

The concern for these crucial planning factors has resulted in recommendations relative to the identification of key policy issues which have been translated

into the conceptual growth and resource management strategy found on the map on the following page.
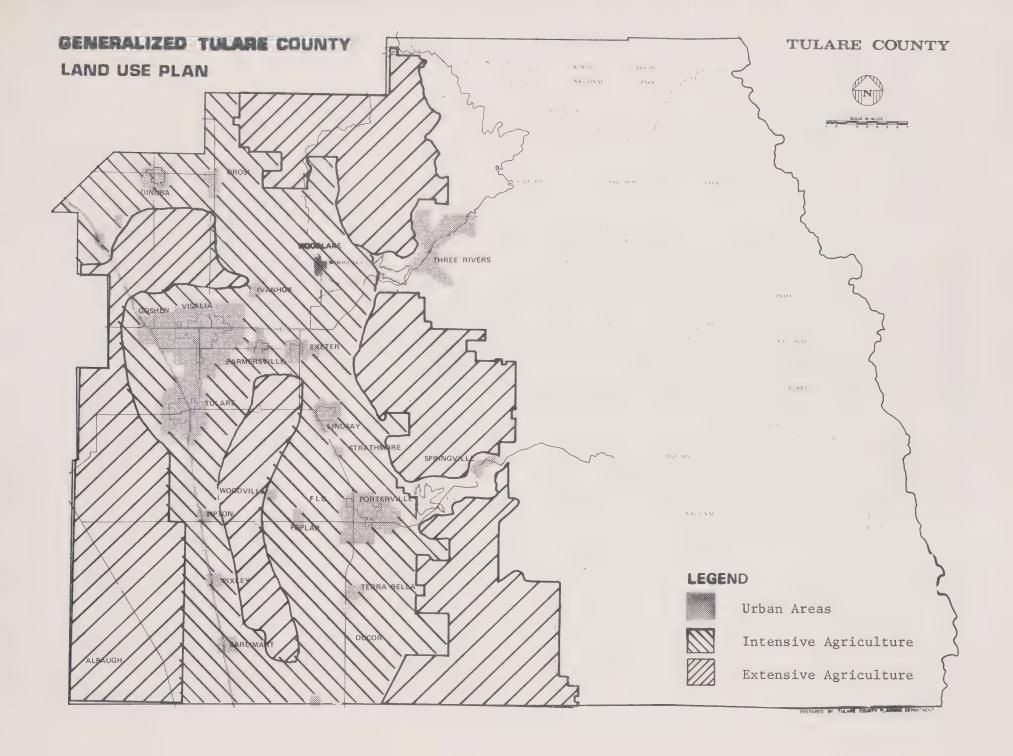
Characteristics of Urban Area Development

An appreciation of the general characteristics of suburban or peripheral area development around the incorporated cities is necessary in order to provide a perspective and understanding of the premises upon which projected suburban growth and attendent service needs was determined.

In general, urban growth has been characterized by fragmentary residential and commercial development (interspersed by land used for agricultural purposes) occurring on lots created by subdivision or through minor land division (lot splitting -- less than four parcels). The majority of residential lot sizes established since 1960 have ranged between 8,000 - 12,500 square feet. It is significant to note that almost all of the county's eight incorporated cities contain an extraordinary amount of vacant land within their corporate limits (a factor which makes it difficult to forecast public service needs within peripheral growth areas in terms of timing and location).

Other characteristics relating to development trends include tendencies to decentralize retail commercial activities (within the larger communities) supported by the improvement of the arterial street and highway network.

Comparative population forecasts for the year 1990 within precisely defined urban boundaries are indicated in the Table below.

GENERALIZED TULARE COUNTY LAND USE PLAN

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

OROSI

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN VISALIA

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

FLG

PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

EARLIMART

DUCOR

ALBAUGH

KINGS INYO NATIONAL PARK

INYO

NATIONAL

LEGEND

Urban Areas

Intensive Agriculture

Extensive Agriculture

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

*URBAN AREA POPULATION
1970 and 1990

Urban Area	Population 1970	Population 1990 (Median Range)
Dinuba	9,200	14,240
Exeter	5,500	6,730
Farmersville	4,000	6,440
Lindsay	8,000	11,435
Porterville	25,000	39,770
Tulare	23,100	33,945
Visalia	40,000	79,700
Woodlake	3,600	6,620
Total Urban Area	118,400 (62.87%)	198,880 (78.03%)
Total County	188,322	254,875

* Area within adopted "Sphere of Influence or Urban Boundary Line.

Current environmental legislation, growth trends, documented population shifts and resulting forecasts underscore the contention that by the target year 1990 the bulk (78%) of Tulare County's citizens will reside within the urban areas surrounding the incorporated cities.

The appraisal of library facilities site needs associated with this projected growth pattern must, in any event, concentrate library resources to serve these parameters.

Characteristics of Rural Area Development

The 1970 census has furnished sufficient data to enable the Planning Department to prepare an accurate county-wide population distribution study. In general, the present dispersion pattern within rural areas is characterized by scattered agricultural units of varying sizes (approximately 5,000 farms [steadily decreasing] with an increasing mean average of 250 acres per farm) and approximately 40 rural service centers (unincorporated towns and villages

whose original purpose it was to provide certain non-agricultural services to the surrounding agricultural hinterlands). Some of these communities are in a state of decline while others continue to expand at very moderate rates.

Although the land tenure pattern is changing, (small to larger ownerships) the land use patterns are relatively fixed due to the extensive employment of the Williamson Act and other development constraints mentioned earlier.

An analysis of the County's rural service centers reveal that the bulk of rural growth will occur in the larger (viable) communities able to provide a reasonable range of public facilities and attract private investment.
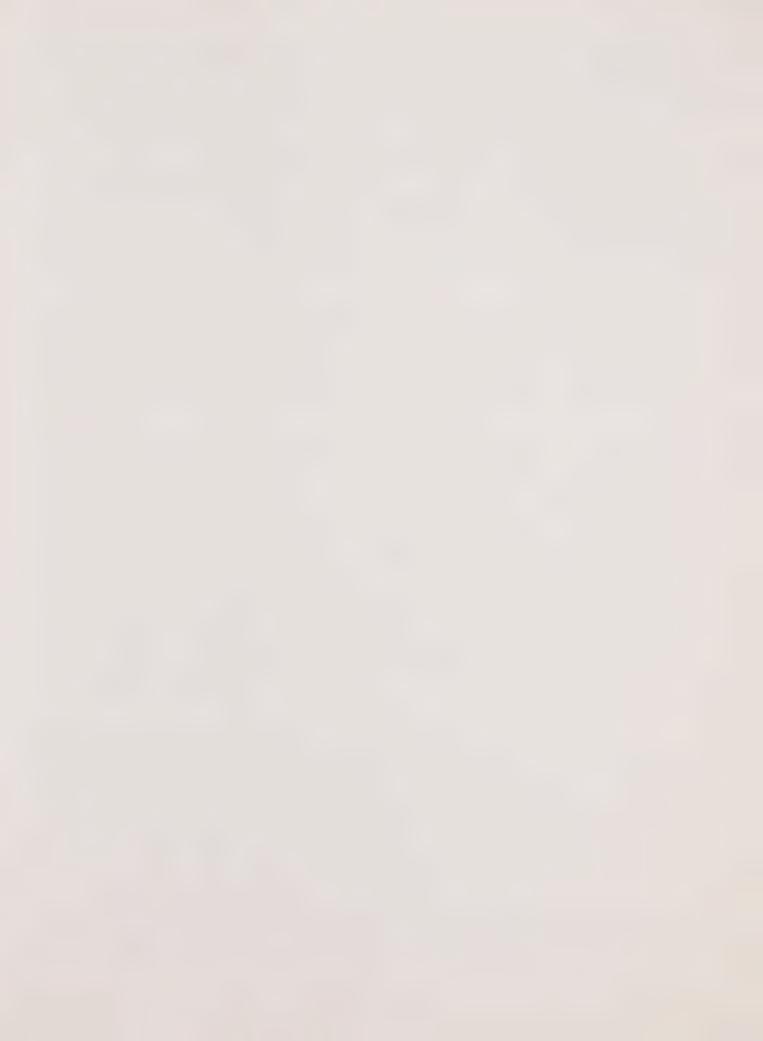
Unless significant changes occur within the 20 year planning period, their is no reason to assume that this development pattern will materially change. There has been in the past, some limited land division activity evidenced in the rural areas with lot sizes, in general, varying from approximately one-half to several acres. Residential building activity has been moderately slow in these areas and it is doubtful that, given the current legislative climate, this type of activity will affect subsequent appraisals of future rural population growth.

Estimates of the total rural population which could be served by the County Library System indicated an anticipated decrease of approximately 14,000 or 20% by 1990. This projected decline definitely suggests a comprehensive appraisal of the future of rural library service in Tulare County.
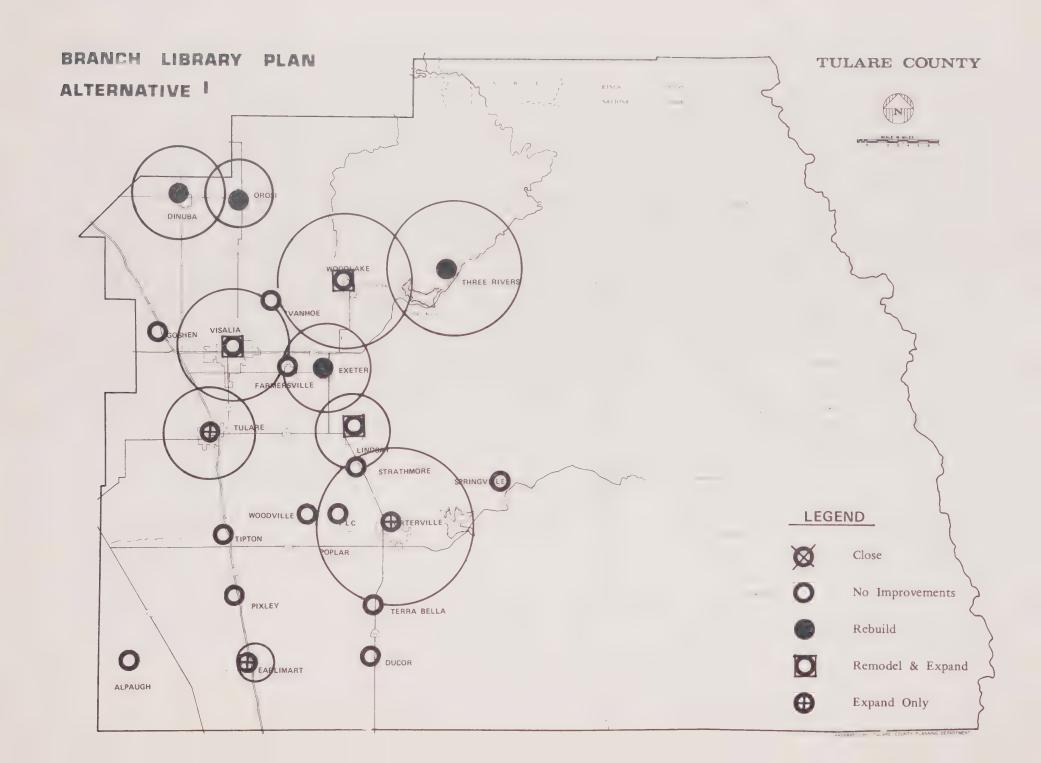
It would appear that reasonable planning alternatives for the rural areas would include continued reliance on bookmobile service, portable/temporary

branch facilities or grouped facilities within selected viable rural service centers.

The following specific planning alternatives were evolved in order to provide assistance in reaching precise policy decisions between the various available operational and physical planning choices.

PHYSICAL PLAN ALTERNATIVES

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE 1

TULARE COUNTY

DINUBA

OROSI

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN

VISALIA

FARMERSVILLE

EXETER

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

PLC

PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

EARLIMART

DUCOR

ALPAUGH

LEGEND

Close

No Improvements

Rebuild

Remodel & Expand

Expand Only

Branch Library Plans

ALTERNATIVE NO. I

Title: Improve community and area-wide libraries only.

Description:

No improvements to existing deposit station or station branches (except Three Rivers), with either reconstruction, remodeling and/or expansion of remaining facilities.

Advantages:
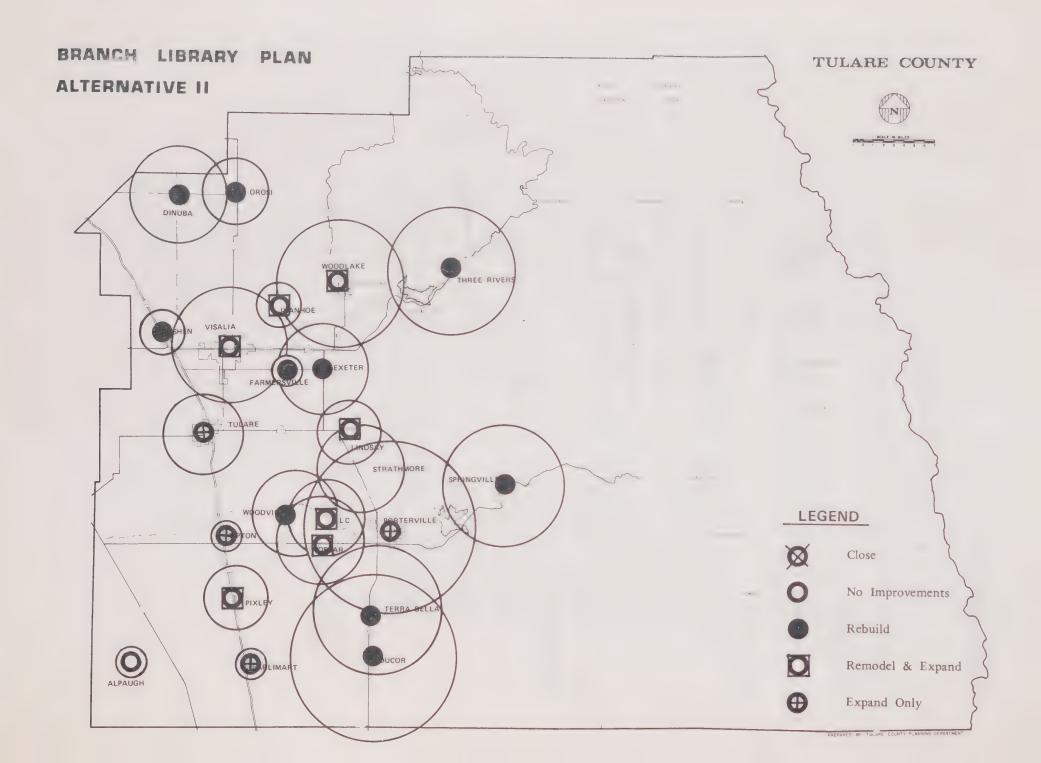
1. Local library service is provided.
2. Full service libraries are within close proximity to county residents.
3. Operating and capital improvement costs are relatively low.
4. Improved facilities will offer increased hours of access to county residents.
5. Local contact between library staff and the community is still possible.

Disadvantages:

1. Thirteen communities will continue to have sub-standard library service.

2. Many of the small libraries cannot justify the expenditure of public resources.

3. If consolidation does not occur, quality regional library service will not be available in the urban areas.

Comment:

Numerous small libraries are designated to receive capital improvements.

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE II

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

LEGEND

⊗ Close

◯ No Improvements

● Rebuild

▢ Remodel & Expand

⊕ Expand Only

DINUBA
OROSI
WOODLAKE
THREE RIVERS
IVANHOE
GOSHEN
VISALIA
EXETER
FARMERSVILLE
TULARE
LINDSAY
STRATHMORE
SPRINGVILLE
WOODVILLE
EARLIMART
PIXLEY
TERRA BELLA
DUCOR
PORTERVILLE
ALPAUGH

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ALTERNATIVE NO. II

Title: Improve all libraries.

Description:

   Improve all library facilities to provide library service
   which meets California Library Association standards.

Advantages:
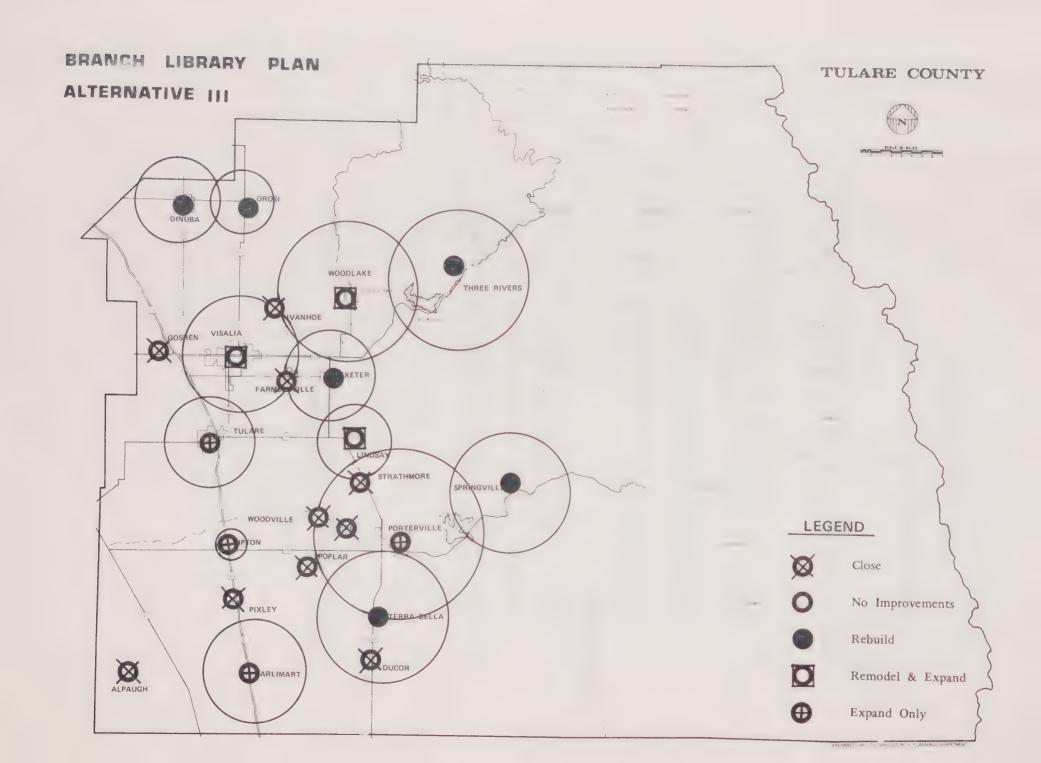
   1. All of the communities who currently offer library
       service will be provided with library facilities
       offering a convenient and upgraded service.

   2. Community pride and identification with local
       library resources will be reinforced.

   3. Consolidation has little effect upon the impact of
       this alternative.

Disadvantages:

   1. Costs of capital improvements and operation are the
       highest of all of the alternatives.

   2. Duplication of resources within numerous branches.

   3. Excessive space allotted to deposit stations and
       station branches which should serve as deposit sites
       only.

   4. Small libraries cannot justify expenditure of public
       funds.

Comment:

   Costly in terms of capital and operational financing when
   compared to other alternative plans.

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE III

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

LEGEND

⊗ Close

○ No Improvements

● Rebuild

⊡ Remodel & Expand

⊕ Expand Only

ALTERNATIVE NO. III

Title: Phased closing of ten library stations, improve remaining
        libraries.

Description:

Phased closing of ten library facilities with capital
improvements and redistribution of resources to remaining
area-wide branches.

Advantages:
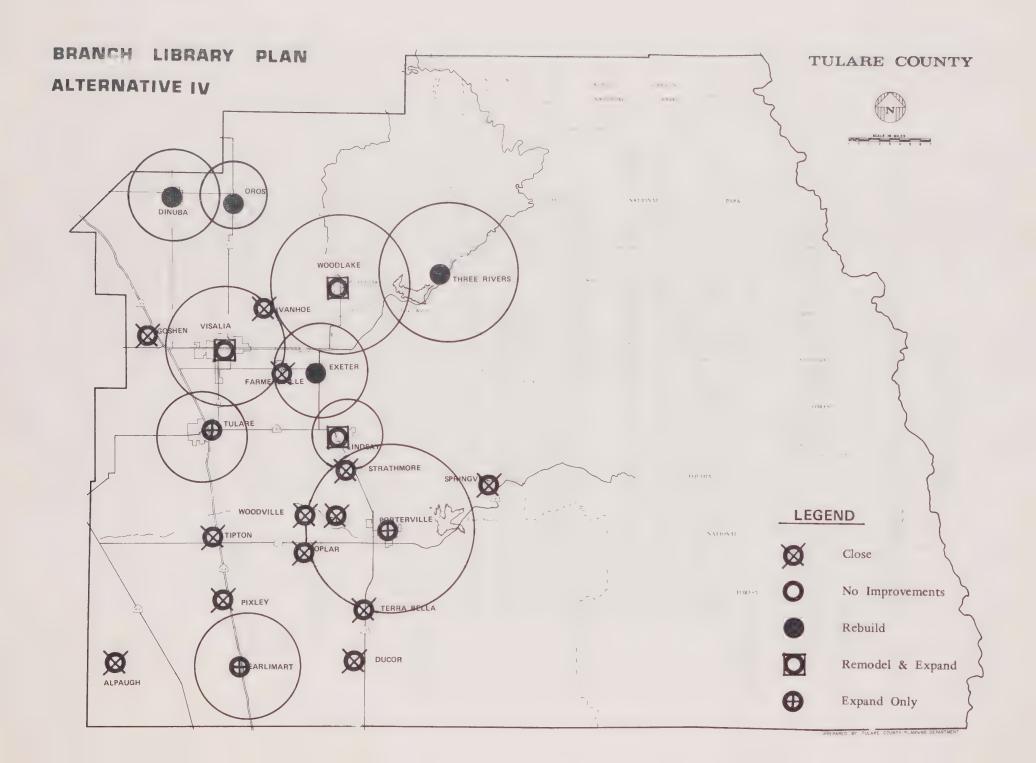
1. Costs of operation and capital improvements are average
    when compared to other alternative plans.

2. Full service library facilities are centrally located.

3. Those branches with questionable operational efficiencies
    are closed.

4. Bookmobile service is expanded and improved to replace
    fixed facility which may result in a loss of operating
    hours and reading space.

5. Those small branches whose service areas inefficiently
    overlap service areas of larger branches are removed.

6. Libraries located in non-viable communities are phased
    out.

Disadvantages:

1. Nearby libraries must absorb the increased demand for
    library service by users of phased out branches.

2. Likely opposition from communities whose libraries are
    designated for removal.

Comment:

This is a major change of policy regarding distribution of
public services.

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE IV

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

OROS

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN

VISALIA

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGV

WOODVILLE

PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

ALPAUGH

EARLIMART

DUCOR

LEGEND

⊗ Close

◯ No Improvements

⬤ Rebuild

▣ Remodel & Expand

⊕ Expand Only

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ALTERNATIVE NO. IV

Title: Phased closing of thirteen library stations, improve re-
maining libraries.

Description:

Phased closing of thirteen library branch facilities with
capital improvements and redistribution of resources to
remaining area-wide branches.

Advantages:
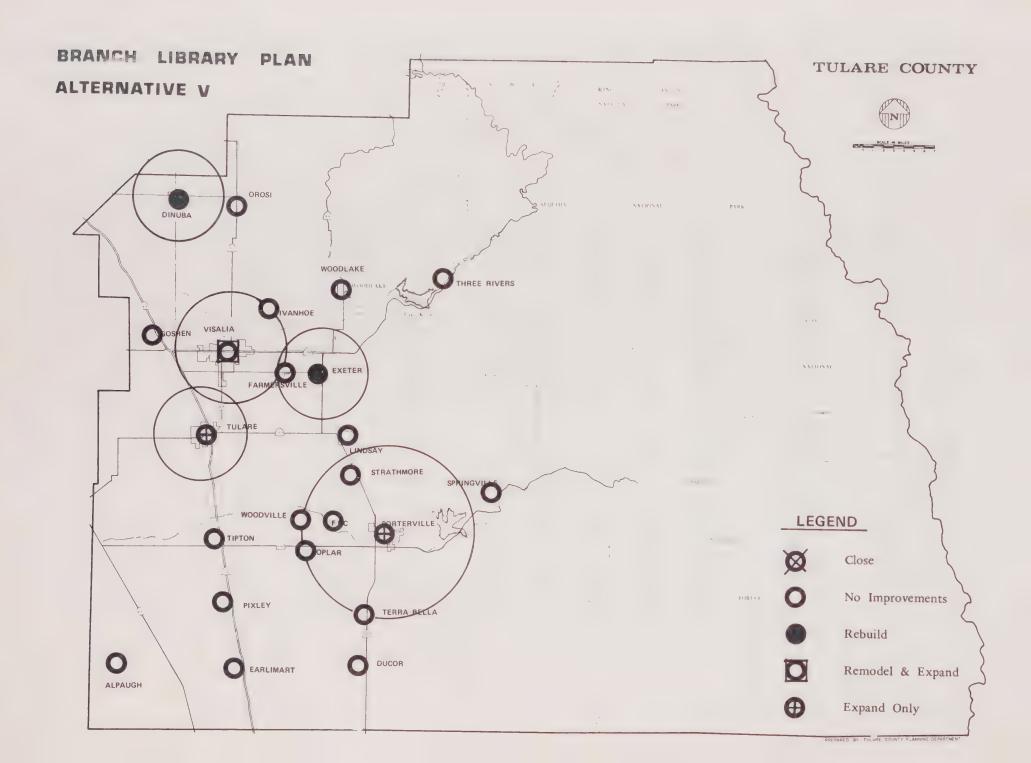
1. Excellent regional library facilities and services
    are provided to residents within an average driving
    time of thirteen minutes.

2. Bookmobile service will be provided in thirteen
    communities.

3. Branches which operate at poor efficiency levels
    are closed.

4. A wider range of library services (hours open,
    resources, staff, movies, etc.) will be available.

5. Libraries located in non-viable communities will
    be phased out.

Disadvantages:

1. High operation and improvement costs as compared to
    other alternatives. However, cost per book efficiency
    is lower.

2. Major regional libraries must absorb the increase in
    demand for library service by patrons of phased out
    libraries (this is a problem if consolidation does
    not occur).

Comment:

Major change in policy regarding distribution of public
services.

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE V

TULARE COUNTY

OROSI

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN

VISALIA

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

FRUC

PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

EARLIMART

DUCOR

ALPAUGH

LEGEND

Close

No Improvements

Rebuild

Remodel & Expand

Expand Only

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ALTERNATIVE NO. V

Title: Improve five area-wide full service libraries, no changes in other libraries.

Description:

Capital improvements only designated for Dinuba, Exeter, Porterville, Tulare and Visalia in conjunction with the full consolidation described in Alternative VIII.

Advantages:
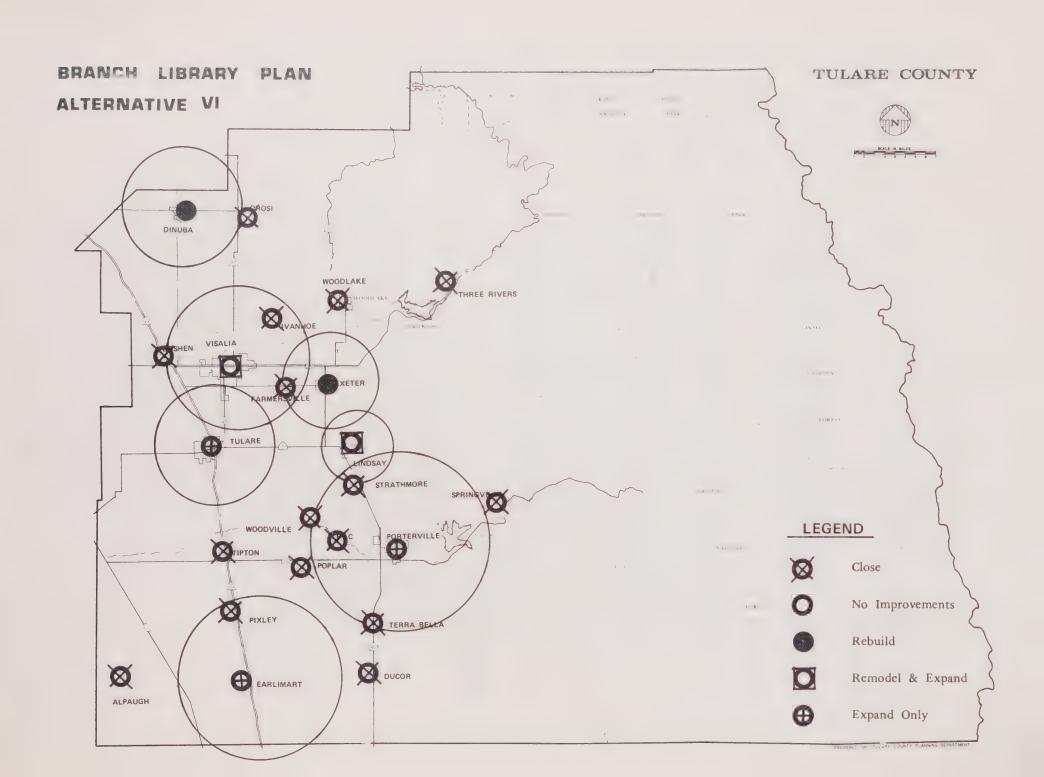
1. Local daily book distribution service is available in all of the communities which currently offer library service.

2. Bookmobile or portable library service may augment permanent operational branch hours and book stock in the communities.

3. Costs of capital improvements and operation are the lowest of all of the alternatives.

4. Major full service regional facilities are available in an average driving time of fifteen minutes to county residents.

Disadvantages:

1. This alternative requires full consolidation of all city and county library systems.

2. If consolidation of city/county library systems does not occur, the major population centers (Porterville, Tulare and Visalia) will not be available to serve as regional centers.

Comment:

Plan offers a wide range of service at a low cost.

BRANCH LIBRARY PLAN
ALTERNATIVE VI

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

DINUBA
OROSI
WOODLAKE
WOODLAKE
THREE RIVERS
IVANHOE
VISALIA
GOSHEN
EXETER
FARMERSVILLE
TULARE
LINDSAY
STRATHMORE
SPRINGVILLE
WOODVILLE
PORTERVILLE
TIPTON
POPLAR
PIXLEY
TERRA BELLA
EARLIMART
DUCOR
ALPAUGH

LEGEND

⊗ Close

◉ No Improvements

● Rebuild

▣ Remodel & Expand

⊕ Expand Only

PREPARED BY TULARE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

ALTERNATIVE NO. VI

Title: Close seventeen libraries, improve remaining libraries.

Description:

Close seventeen branch facilities and improve only Dinuba, Visalia, Exeter, Lindsay, Tulare and Porterville, and establish a full service library in southwestern Tulare County.

Advantages:
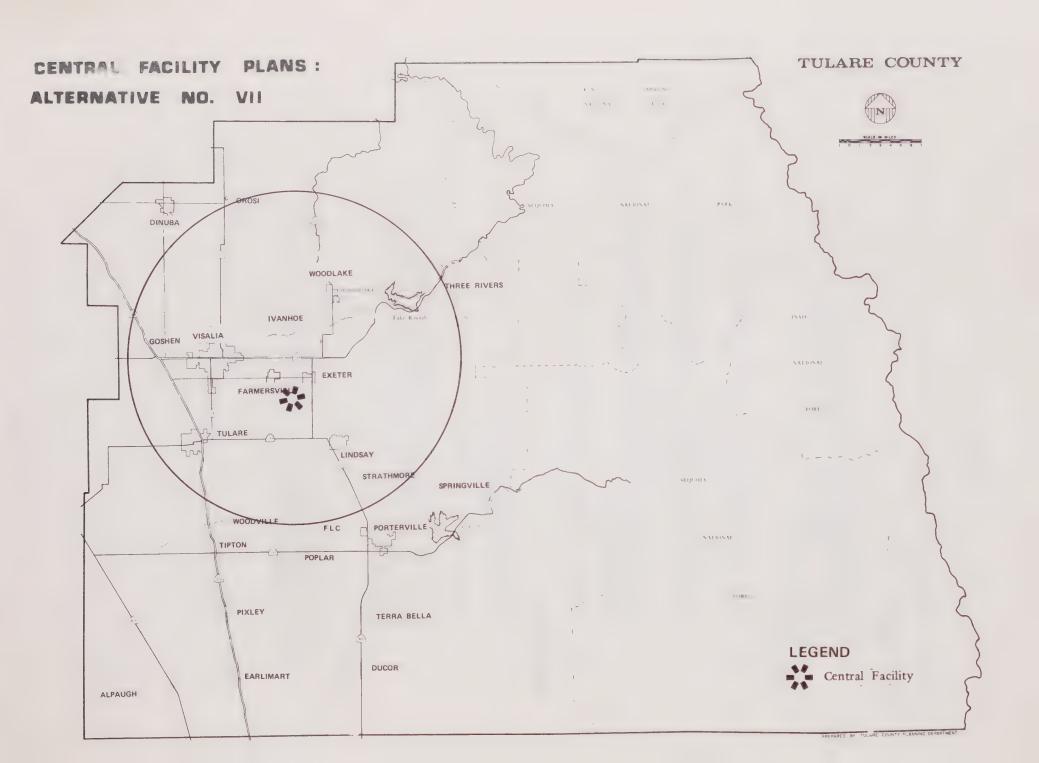
1. Resources are used to the fullest capacity with reasonable operational efficiency.

2. The regional facilities will supply an excellent full spectrum library service to all county residents.

3. Bookmobile and portable library services will be provided locally to all of the communities whose libraries have been removed.

4. Libraries in non-viable communities will be removed.

Disadvantages:

1. There is no permanent library service supplied locally in seventeen communities.

2. The improvement and operation costs are high.

3. If consolidation of city/county library systems does not occur, the major population centers (Porterville, Tulare and Visalia) will not be available to serve as regional centers.

Comment:

Regional centers established. This alternative is feasible only if consolidation occurs. This is a major change in policy regarding delivery of public services.

ALTERNATIVE NO. VII

Title: If non-consolidation, construct central facility in
        some centrally located community.

Description:

    (Assuming there is no county/city consolidation)
Remove central facility from County Courthouse and relocate
it in some centrally located community such as Exeter.

Advantages:
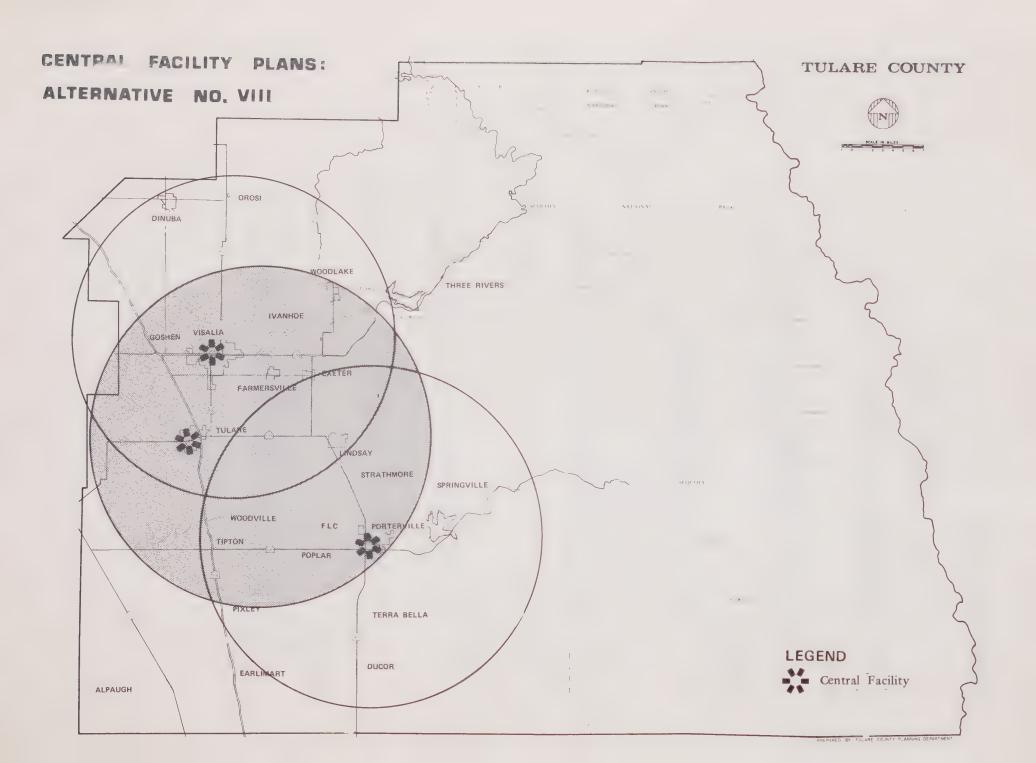
1. Central library would be centrally located
   relative to population distribution.

2. The cost of construction would be low as compared
   to an urban area.

3. The central facility would be constructed in a
   community which is currently administered through
   the county.

4. There would be no duplication of library service in
   Visalia.

Disadvantages:

1. There is a small population in the communities or
   county administered cities when compared to other
   urban areas.

2. There are no major regional activity centers located
   in the smaller cities or communities to attract library
   users.

Comment:

Central facility not located in major population center.
The central facility is to be improved and may operate in
conjunction with any of the first five library branch
plans.

CENTRAL FACILITY PLANS:
ALTERNATIVE NO. VIII

TULARE COUNTY

N

SCALE IN MILES

OROSI

DINUBA

WOODLAKE

THREE RIVERS

IVANHOE

GOSHEN   VISALIA

EXETER

FARMERSVILLE

TULARE

LINDSAY

STRATHMORE

SPRINGVILLE

WOODVILLE

FLC   PORTERVILLE

TIPTON

POPLAR

PIXLEY

TERRA BELLA

DUCOR

EARLIMART

ALPAUGH

SEQUOIA   NATIONAL   PARK

SEQUOIA

LEGEND

Central Facility

ALTERNATIVE NO. VIII

Title: If consolidation, central facility in Porterville,
        Tulare or Visalia.

Description:

   (Assuming city/county consolidation)
   Relocate the central facility in either Porterville,
   Tulare or Visalia.

Advantages:
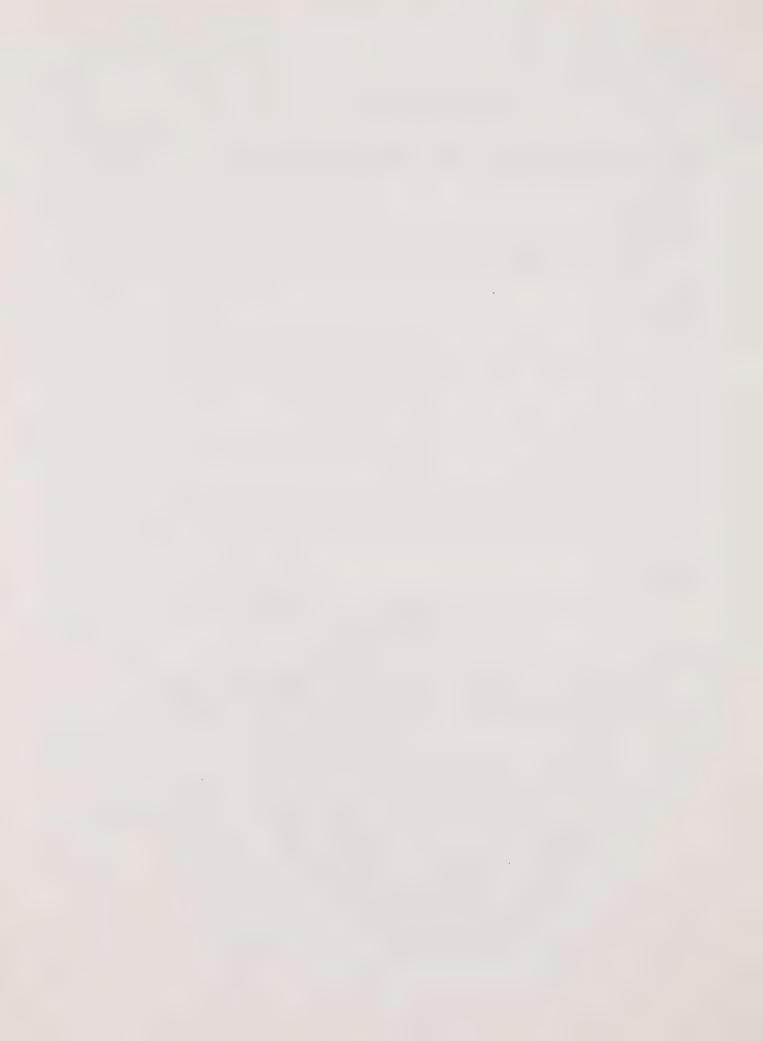
   1. Central facility will be located in a major urban area.

   2. Attraction to the library will be increased by attrac-
       tion to nearby regional commercial centers.

   3. Excellent regional access is available.

   4. The greatest need for a central facility is in the
       densely populated urban areas.

   5. In order to operate an efficient branch library system
       an adequately stocked, fully staffed, sufficiently
       sized central library facility is required.

Disadvantages:

   1. The construction costs are high requiring a large floor
       area to accommodate the large number of users.

Comment:

   Placement of central facility in Visalia recommended. This
   central facility plan is to be used in conjunction with any
   of the first five library branch plans.

ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF FINANCING

Any action program for physical improvement of the County's Public Libraries will require either the construction of new buildings, or varying degrees of modification to existing structures. An important factor to be considered in library financing is the date when actual construction will begin. This date relates directly to increases in total cost (inflation), cash availability (accrual), interest payments, and to federal grant prospects.

The methods of financing library construction, the advantages and disadvantages of each method, as well as various sources of funding available, are discussed below under the following categories:

1. Gifts and/or donations.

2. Cash accrual, from an annual tax rate.

3. Bonding.

4. Commercial Loans,(including with option to purchase).

5. Conventional Leasing.

6. Revenue bonds.

7. Subventions (giving of aid, i.e., subsidy by the State).

8. Grants.

1. Gifts and/or donations: This, of course, would be the simplest and least expensive method to obtain funding for library service. However, it requires that a donor, or donors, provide sufficient resources. The donor can be a public or private body or an individual who furnishes an outright gift of funds and/or land to allow for the construction of a building. Under any circumstance,

any cash and/or adequate land contribution by public or private
bodies or individuals will reduce the funding which must be
obtained by other financing methods.

This method is most desirable if adequate donations can be
timed to correspond to capital improvement objectives; however,
it would normally take several years to accrue the necessary
amounts, and the total cost of construction can be expected to
materially increase (a working factor would approximate 5% in-
flation annually). Gifts or donations to a library construction
fund should be actively solicited, but they do not appear to be
the most feasible approach to prompt completion of library cons-
truction.

2. Cash Accrual. This method of financing can be accomplished by
   an annual assignment of an additional tax rate to the taxpayers.
   The amount received from this annual assessment is then placed
   in a reserve until the necessary amounts for land purchase and/or
   building construction are available. The advantages of this
   method are that no part of the tax receipts is expended on
   interest charges, time is provided to augment the tax assessments
   with funds and/or land from solicitations for gifts and donations
   and the increase in time may allow for development refinement and
   promotion of a better total library service plan.

   The disadvantages of this method may, however, outweigh the
   advantages. Foremost, the time necessary to accrue funds is
   relatively long, unless a high assessment rate is established.

Further, residents have only minimal library service until an
adequate facility is provided. Also, many of the residents
being taxed may have left the area before the facility is oper-
ational. It relieves future citizens from sharing the respons-
ibility of paying for facilities from which they will benefit.
Again, costs are increasing annually and could nullify a con-
siderable portion of the tax money collected. Finally, the
possibility of receiving a Federal Grant is lessened. This
(pay-as-you-go) method can be used successfully for small pro-
jects, phased projects or for additions, improvements and
modifications to existing structures.

3. Bonding. A third method of library financing requires voter
authorization for a public bond subscription. This would re-
quire an election with the approval of a 2/3 voting majority.
If approved, the bonds would have to be sold. The repayment
of the bond issue would then be accomplished by an annual
property tax assessment of taxpayers over a pre-established
period.

This approach would expedite the availability of funds for con-
struction more quickly than is possible under the cash accrual
method. It does allow for early application for a Federal Grant
(upon election approval of the bond subscription). It allows
for repayment at current public interest rates which are lower
than can be obtained from private borrowing. Amortization of
the bond issue is accomplished over a long period of time which
will allow a great number of library patrons to pay a prorata

share of costs.

The disadvantages, however, are numerous. First, the possibility of obtaining a 2/3 voter majority is always difficult, thus minimizing the desirability of using this technique. Second, the time involved in obtaining necessary voter approval is relatively long. Also, the overall total interest payment is high, although at a relatively low current rate, because of the fixed total, or increment, repayment and long (20 year) amortization period. Finally, long before repayment of the bonds is completed, it can be expected that some of the library facility may need to be modified to meet additional community requirements, thus requiring a period of possible dual tax assessment.

4. <u>Commercial Loans</u>. If a community can find a lender, it is possible for a group to obtain a commercial loan for library construction. The group can then either construct the facility itself or donate the monies to a public jurisdiction and have the jurisdiction construct the facility. Repayment for such commercially borrowed monies would be arranged by the local group without any anticipated public tax support. The difficulties to be expected in open-market commercial borrowing and repayment by a local group tend to preclude the acceptability of this borrowing technique for library construction. An alternative borrowing technique is possible for communities which have established a (library) County Service Area. A County Service Area, a public jurisdiction, may borrow the necessary funds from the County Employees Retirement System. Use of this approach allows for

property tax support repayments over a shorter or longer period of
time as determined by the community. The willingness of the
Retirement System to grant a loan would provide immediate avail-
ability of the necessary cash to finance library construction and
to apply for a Federal Grant. This technique does not require
the 2/3 voters approval, which is also true for bond subscriptions.
Money would be borrowed at a higher rate of interest than possible
with a bond issue, but the total interest repayment would be lower.
Cash is provided to the County Service Area by the Retirement
Board in return for a lease contract with option to purchase, with
the County Service Area.

5. <u>Conventional Leasing</u>. This alternative method consists of direct
rental with no intent to purchase. One advantage of utilizing this
arrangement is that no capital investment is required from the
public agency. This method provides a high degree of flexibility
in meeting unexpected or changing conditions. In some cases, leas-
ing can be considered an eligible expense for a Federal operating
subsidy.

There are some disadvantages to this technique. Leasing can become
expensive when used over an extended period of time. Leased facil-
ities not designed especially for library service can create operat-
ing, locational and functional problems. Leasing generally should
be considered only as a temporary solution while plans and/or
financing arrangements can be finalized for permanent facilities;
or as a test of locational criteria for an individual site.

6. <u>Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Revenue Bonds</u>. Two or more public agencies can contract to perform jointly any function which each agency is authorized to do separately. When two or more governmental agencies so contract, a third quasi-independent agency is established. It is governed by the contracting parties, pursuant to the terms of the contract. This agency has authority in the Government Code, Section 6540 et seq, to issue revenue bonds, secured by the operation of the joint powers agency. For example, a city and a county, or two cities, could agree, through a joint powers agency, to construct a building, with each city or county agreeing to pay a certain amount of rent on the building. The rental agreement between the agency and the parties would be the security for retiring the revenue bonds and paying the interest thereon.

This has become a rather common means of financing capital improvement in this state. However, as is possible with any partnership, the interest of one of the parties to such an agreement may be considerably less than that of the other. The advantage of this type of operation over the non-profit corporation lease-purchase arrangement is that the governmental jurisdictions involved remain firmly in control of the joint powers agency and the question of tax exemption for the bonds is established. The disadvantage of this type of financing is that, like the non-profit corporation revenue bond arrangement, the cost of financing is higher than general obligation bonds. There is also potential adverse criticism associated with this method since many citizens believe that it circumvents the will of the people by not presenting it to a public vote.

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7. <u>Subventions</u>. Subventions may be in the form of reimbursement from the State of California for monetary losses incurred by local agencies. For example, the county's implementation of the Williamson Act has resulted in a decrease in assessed valuation and a loss of expected, additional taxes. The State will return to the county, a proportion of the lost revenue. All county agencies including the library system, are eligible to receive a prorata share of this state subvention.

8. <u>Grants</u>. The State Library Establishment Grant is available for those libraries wishing to consolidate. System membership such as Tulare County membership in the San Joaquin Valley System is a requirement to qualify for such a grant. The State can make available annual grants of $10,000 for each library for each of two successive years for the purpose of defraying costs of consolidation.

Federal Grants for library construction financing are possible -- but are dependent on the tenuous availability of federal funds. There are, however, criteria which the local agencies must meet to qualify for the Federal Grants. Excerpts have been reproduced from the "Library Services and Construction Act Annual Program, State of California, fiscal year 1972", and are found in the Appendix.

Appendix

CONSIDERATIONS USED IN THE FORMATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR RECONSTRUCTION, REMODELING, EXPANSION
AND/OR ALTERNATIVE TYPES OF FACILITIES

The physical requirements of any particular branch may vary depending upon the size and the socio-economic characteristics of the community which it serves. The physical condition of each branch was measured and rated through a comprehensive inspection described in Chapter II. When compiled, this survey grouped each community into either poor, fair, or good categories which incorporate the following criteria.

> Building condition   Library expansion possible
> Site size   Floor space
> Locational suitability   Floors, heating, cooling,
>   lighting, etc.

The recommendations made in the alternatives have been based, in part, on the above criteria with proposals for reconstruction dependent upon the:

> Building condition   Locational suitability
> Site size   Library expansion possible

Some of the Library facilities are in need of remodeling because of inadequate physical conditions such as lighting, cooling, heating, floor-condition, or safety factors, etc.

The third recommendation which proposed expansion of the facility was based upon the total physical condition of the facility as well as existing floor space. Unfortunately, none of the 29 branches offer facilities large enough to service the existing demand (2,000 square feet minimum). In conclusion, approximately 100% of the Tulare County library branches are in need of either major physical rehabilitation or expansion or both.

The location of libraries in non-viable communities was a major consideration in the recommendations regarding allocations of resources for any type of improvement.

Operational factors (such as: per capita and book circulation costs) are prime determinants of individual branch efficiency. Each branch was also rated according to the following criteria:

> Population served   Tax dollar spent per book
> Amount of staff   Hourly operational costs
> Number of hours open per week Total operational costs
> Circulation per hour and year

Those branches which consistently failed to meet minimum requirements under the above categories have been selected for the testing of more efficient types of library facilities.

The location of certain small library service areas within service areas of larger, full service libraries was an important consideration in the formation of recommendations concerning future investment of public resources.

CONSOLIDATION

With the urban areas destined to receive population in-migration over the
next 20 years, a tremendous growth in the service area population of the
major urban areas will subsequently occur. This means that Porterville,
Tulare and Visalia will experience increased pressure for use of their city
library facilities by county residents, thus increasing the demand for
limited services and facilities in these libraries affected. The issue of
consolidation of the three city libraries (Porterville, Tulare and Visalia)
with the County Library System would then become a vital one if equal dis-
tribution of library services and costs throughout the county is to occur.

The service area populations of the cities of Porterville, Tulare and
Visalia comprise 60% of the total county population representing 102,000
people. If the county of Tulare is to embark on a capitol improvement pro-
gram to upgrade the library facilities offered to its residents, then
Porterville, Tulare and Visalia should be included so that full service area-
wide libraries will be available in sub-regions of the county. Without con-
solidation of both the County Library System and those of Porterville, Tulare
and Visalia, improvements to these city facilities cannot be assured, but
would be a responsibility of the individual city. Free service to county
residents could not be guaranteed.

Consolidation of library facilities would not only affect capital improve-
ment programs, but would require a considerable change in financial and
social policies as well.

Cost

If the urban area-wide library facilities are improved and the station branches remain as they are today, a migration of library users from the deposit stations to the full service regional libraries should occur. This migration will increase the size of the urban libraries area-wide service area, thus dictating the need for larger floor area, book volumes, staff, audio-visual equipment, etc., all of which means increased costs. If consolidation was a reality, the increased costs of improving a few area-wide, full service libraries would be deferred in part by the reduction in operating costs in the rural deposit stations.

While an increase in user demand for a library facility develops corresponding increases in operation costs, library patrons can be an asset to the business sector of the community within which the library is located. However, there is one very discouraging drawback to this philosophy. When the library is funded and operated through city taxes, the cost of servicing the additional demand (non-residents) must be absorbed by the city. A solution to this situation would be for the three cities (Tulare, Porterville and Visalia) to consolidate with the county so that the total county-wide tax base could be used to fund needed physical and service improvements providing a wider range of services than could be provided by each city on an individual basis. The three cities would then benefit financially by absolving themselves from responsibility of financing their library facilities and thus releasing funds allocated for library operation. Visalia, alone, would save nearly 30¢ per tax dollar if they consolidated with the county. This release of tax funds would be a tremendous boost to the cities' budget. The county could gain by

the replacement of numerous small inefficient operations and facilities by
large full service area-wide city libraries.

Financing

With the present city/county library system, the taxpayers within the cities
pay a higher tax rate for library service (22¢ average) than do the county
residents (approximately 13¢).

<div align="center">

Existing Tax Rates and Equivalents
Library Costs for 1971-72

</div>

City	Assessed Valuation	Actual Tax Rate/$100	Actual Cost Rates (Taxes, donations, general fund, etc.)
Porterville	$19,999,705	20¢	31¢
Tulare	22,155,800	21¢	35¢
Visalia	59,789,167	25¢	28¢
County	333,767,403	13¢	15¢

The libraries of Porterville, Tulare and Visalia provide facilities for
nearly 102,000 people, of which only 55% are city residents. These city
residents are the citizens who actually fund the operation and improvement
costs through city taxes. This means that 45% of the county residents are
located within the service areas of either Porterville, Tulare, or Visalia
and presumably make use of the library facilities located there. It is
evident, then, that if the inequities of payment and use of library facilities
are to be resolved, consolidation of the city and county libraries must occur.
If consolidation does develop, the tax rates for the cities will decline con-
siderably while the county tax rate will show only a minor increase because
of its broader tax base.

Alternative	Operating Costs With Improvements	Improvement Costs/Yr.	Total Revenue Required	Tax Rate Required to Obtain Revenue	
				1980	1990
I	975,389	136,445	1,111,834	.17	.14
II	1,043,184	176,897	1,220,081	.19	.16
III	992,808	123,654	1,116,462	.17	.14
IV	1,011,595	155,982	1,167,577	.17	.14
V	915,129	117,430	1,032,559	.16	.13
VI	997,937	154,932	1,152,869	.18	.15

This assumes an increase in assessed valuation of $104,744,484 between 1970 and 1980, as well as between 1980 and 1990.

If consolidation does occur, the assessment rate for the total county system will be 13¢ providing an increase of only 2¢/$100 assessed valuation for county residents. Consolidation would create a savings of nearly 16¢/$100 in Porterville, 15¢/$100 in Visalia and 10¢/$100 in Tulare. When the needed capitol improvements were included in the tax rate, it was computed that by 1980, the tax rate will only be 15¢/$100 assessed valuation for the program described in Alternative No. V. This means that all of the improvements described in Alternative No. V could be funded in 20 years through a county tax rate of 16¢/$100 assessed valuation, if consolidation occurs.

The Table on the following page shows the responses of the library users who answered the question concerning consolidation. The results of this survey question should not be given undue weight at this time without the presentation of the advantages and disadvantages of consolidation to the citizens.

LIBRARY USERS IN FAVOR OF LIBRARY CONSOLIDATION OF COUNTY AND CITY LIBRARIES
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Total Number of Respondents	% In Favor	% Not in Favor	% Don't Know	% Other
BOOKMOBILE	1,049	286	151	610	2
CENTRAL	97	75	10	12	-
DINUBA	208	114	20	73	1
EARLIMART	379	132	44	199	4
EXETER	143	77	14	51	1
IVANHOE	117	36	30	51	-
LINDSAY	194	96	34	62	2
PORTERVILLE	158	90	15	51	2
STRATHMORE	191	79	43	69	-
VISALIA	71	35	18	18	-
WOODLAKE	72	39	10	22	1
TOTAL NO.	2,679	1,059	389	1,218	13
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	40	15	45	-

LIBRARY USERS NOT IN FAVOR OF LIBRARY CONSOLIDATION OF COUNTY AND CITY LIBRARIES
(BY PERCENTAGE)

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	Total Number of Respondents	% In Favor	% Not in Favor	% Don't Know	% Other
TULARE	173	56	73	43	1
TOTAL NO.	173	56	73	43	1
PERCENT OF TOTAL	100	32	42	25	1

Libraries with insignificant responses were not included.

PROJECTED SPACE REQUIREMENTS FOR LIBRARY FACILITIES

LOCATION OF LIBRARY	BRANCH (0.67 SQ. FT. /PERSON)			
	1970			
	Existing (Sq. Ft.)	Sq. footage required today	Total sq. footage required by 1980 (Sq. Ft.)	Total sq. footage required by 1990 (Sq. Ft.)
ALPAUGH	1,155	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
CENTRAL ·	7,456	30,000.0	50,000.0	60,000.0
DINUBA	1,707	10,267.8	10,822.5	11,461.0
DUCOR	347	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
EARLIMART	1,464	2,345.0	2,511.8	2,665.3
EXETER	1,382	7,571.0	7,782.7	7,993.1
FARMERSVILLE	600	3,167.1	3,245.5	3,333.3
GOSHEN	720	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
IVANHOE	2,460	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
JOHNSONDALE	320	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
LINDSAY	2,380	7,236.0	7,569.0	7,940.2
OROSI	1,459	6,298.0	8,502.3	9,675.5
PIXLEY	1,260	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
POPLAR	480	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
PORTERVILLE	5,400	23,115.0	26,513.2	30,781.1
SPRINGVILLE	270	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
STRATHMORE	650	3,082.0	3,409.0	3,787.5
TERRA BELLA	1,330	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
THREE RIVERS	1,757	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
TIPTON	1,155	2,000.0	2,000.0	818.1
TULARE	8,030	17,956.0	20,433.7	23,355.5
VISALIA	10,946	27,269.0	34,425.9	44,994.5
WOODLAKE	1,364	3,257.0	3,639.4	3,759.0
WOODVILLE	N.A.	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
FLC	280	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0

Prepared by Tulare County Planning Department

LEASED LIBRARY FACILITIES—INCLUDING OPERATIONAL FACTORS

Branch	Cost Per Book Circulation	Annual Rental Fee
*FARMERSVILLE	$3.09	$480.00
DUCOR	$3.01	$780.00
POPLAR	$2.53	$420.00
SPRINGVILLE	$1.55	$600.00
THREE RIVERS	$1.47	$2,312.00
STRATHMORE	$1.38	$480.00
GOSHEN	$1.30	$480.00
TOTAL		$5,552.00
AVERAGE	$1.60	$793.14

*Leased by Farmersville City.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS

Yearly Operational Costs for Proposed Alternatives

Alternative	Consolidation	Branch Cost $	Total cost of operation with central facility located in:		
			Tulare $	Central Community $	Visalia $
V	Consolidation	915,200	1,314,200		1,236,000
	Non-consolidation	341,000		849,800	
I	Consolidation	974,300	1,374,500		1,296,200
	Non-consolidation	400,100		909,900	
III	Consolidation	1,020,200	1,391,900		1,275,300
	Non-consolidation	383,600		858,200	
VI	Consolidation	997,900	1,388,100		1,264,200
	Non-consolidation	327,600		823,000	
IV	Consolidation	1,011,800	1,401,700		1,294,100
	Non-consolidation	357,700		859,400	
II	Consolidation	1,042,300	1,442,300		1,364,000
	Non-consolidation	468,100		977,800	

Central facility will operate at approximately $550,000/year.
Data based upon 1970 population figures.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS

(20 Year Funding Program)

Alternative	Cost if consolidated	Cost if not consolidated
V	$2,359,000	$822,500
III	$2,973,000	$1,180,700
I	$3,002,000	$1,581,500
VI	$3,078,600	$1,436,900
IV	$3,119,800	$1,612,300
II	$3,537,400	$2,123,200

Central Facility Costs

Central Community	$800,000
Tulare	$909,000
Visalia	$1,080,000

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Study Estimate

YEARLY OPERATIONAL COSTS OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

(Based upon 1970 Population Data)

Classification	Branch	ALTERNATIVE					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
E.	Pixley	10,100	12,400			10,100	
	Terra Bella	9,400	11,000	11,500		9,400	
	Goshen	4,700	10,000			4,700	
	Alpaugh	3,900	5,000			3,900	
	Poplar	4,000	8,400			4,000	
	Ducor	3,000	5,000			3,000	
	Woodville	800	800			800	
	Woodville F.L.C	1,500	2,700			1,500	
	Springville	3,300	4,800	4,800		3,300	
	Tipton	4,000	6,500	9,700		4,000	
D.	Farmersville	3,100	26,600			3,100	
	Three Rivers	25,200	25,200	25,200	25,200	25,200	
	Ivanhoe	10,600	15,800			10,600	
	Strathmore	8,900	20,300			8,900	
C.	Earlimart	23,000	23,000	25,400	25,400	23,000	25,400
	Orosi	47,300	47,300	47,300	47,300	9,400	
	Dinuba	86,300	86,300	86,300	86,300	86,300	135,100
	Exeter	41,100	41,100	48,100	41,100	41,100	54,600
	Lindsay	60,800	60,800	67,200	67,200	48,500	67,200
	Woodlake	30,900	30,900	30,900	30,900	12,900	
	Bookmobile	18,200	18,200	27,200	27,300	27,300	45,300
Sub-total Non-consolidation		400,100	468,100	383,600	357,700	341,000	327,600
B.	Tulare	150,900	150,900	150,900	159,900	150,900	159,900
	Porterville	194,200	194,200	218,200	226,700	194,200	226,700
	Visalia	229,100	229,100	267,500	267,500	229,100	283,700
Total Consolidation		974,300	1,042,300	1,020,200	1,011,800	915,200	997,900
A.	Central	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000	550,000

Savings Over Other Alternatives							
	I					59,100	
	II	68,000		22,100	30,500	127,100	44,400
	III	45,900			8,400	105,000	22,300
	IV	37,500				96,600	13,900
	V						
	VI					82,700	

INCREASED MINIMUM STANDARDS IN FLOOR AREA, BOOK VOLUME, AND STAFF

WHEN COMMUNITIES RECEIVE ADDITIONAL LIBRARY USERS FROM PHASED OUT BRANCHES

COMMUNITY	POPULATION INCREASE			SQ. FT. INCREASE (DEMAND)			BOOK VOLUME INCREASE			STAFF REQUIREMENTS	
	Existing	Increase	Combined	Existing	Increase Needed to Meet Minimum Standards	Required Minimum with Additional Demand	Existing Volumes	Existing and Increase	Required Minimum	Existing	Req. Min.
TULARE	26,800	1,700	28,500	8,030	11,065	19,095	'31,284	38,142	57,000	4.5	11.4
EARLIMART	3,500	1,449	5,449	1,464	2,187	3,651	6,412	13,671	10,898	2	3.5
PORTERVILLE	34,500	3,653	38,153	5,400	20,163	25,563	34,571	50,350	76,306	6	12

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

GENERAL COMPARISON OF KEY FACTORS

CLASS OF LIBRARY	NAME OF COMMUNITY	Population of service area	Minimum book volume	Total floor area in sq. ft.	Number of staff	Hours open/week	Minimum standard of circulation 1 year	Existing circulation/year	Circulation per hour	Tax dollar spent per book per year	Hourly operational cost	Total operational cost	Non-viable community	Poor condition of structure	Fair condition of structure	Good condition of structure	Needs enlarging to meet min. standards	Remodeling required	New building required
E.	MINIMUM STANDARDS ➧	1,500	7,000	2,000	1	15													
	PIXLEY	2,200	6,079	1,260	1	38	12,386	7,385	4	3.02	11.45	22,334		●			●		●
	TERRA BELLA	1,960	5,743	1,330	1	38	11,035	10,384	5	2.10	11.19	21,827		●			●		●
	GOSHEN	1,400	4,014	720	1	38	7,882	10,000	9	1.17	16.01	11,657		●			●		●
	ALPAUGH	770	6,174	1,155	3/8	15	4,335	4,969	6	2.72	17.31	13,448	●		●		●	●	
	POPLAR	1,500	2,330	480	4/8	19	8,445	3,629	4	2.53	9.28	9,167		●			●	●	
	DUCOR	885	3,887	347	3/8	15	4,983	2,714	3	3.01	10.42	8,173	●	●			●		●
	WOODVILLE	1,200	691		1		6,756	2,776		0.29		4,131					●	●	
	WOODVILLE F.L.C.	600	1,705	280	2/8	9	3,378	3,735	8	1.30	10.36	4,848		●			●	●	
	SPRINGVILLE	850	1,653	270	3/8	15	4,786	4,802	6	1.55	9.54	7,441		●			●		●
	TIPTON	1,150	5,486	1,155	3/8	15	6,475	5,527	7	2.55	18.07	14,095			●		●		
D.	MINIMUM STANDARDS ➧	2,500 5,000	10,000	2,500	2	15-30													
	FARMERSVILLE	4,730	3,586	600	3/8	15	26,630	2,602	4	3.09	11.04	8,039		●			●		●
	THREE RIVERS	1,500	11,131	1,757	2	48	8,445	25,174	5	1.47	14.64	36,913			●		●	●	
	IVANHOE	2,800	8,453	2,460	1	38	15,764	12,233	6	2.13	13.38	26,095		●			●	●	
	STRATHMORE	3,600	5,357	650	1	38	20,268	14,958	8	1.38	10.62	20,702		●			●		●
C.	MINIMUM STANDARDS ➧	10,000 24,999	20,000	7,000	5	45-60													
	EARLIMART	3,500	6,412	1,464	2	51	19,705	22,969	9	1.45	12.56	33,320			●		●		
	OROSI	8,400	5,653	1,459	1	38	47,292	7,336	4	2.85	10.75	20,958		●			●		●
	DINUBA	15,325	15,774	1,707	2 1/2	56	86,280	59,714	21	0.82	16.77	48,846		●			●		●
	EXETER	7,300	13,626	1,382	2	56	41,099	32,955	11	1.19	13.48	39,246		●			●		●
	LINDSAY	10,800	14,070	2,380	2	56	60,804	28,664	10	1.50	14.75	42,951			●		●	●	
	WOODLAKE	5,300	8,981	1,364	2	51	29,839	30,903	12	1.08	12.61	33,435			●		●	●	
B.	MINIMUM STANDARDS ➧	25,000 49,999	50,000	15,000	7	60+													
	TULARE	26,800	31,284	8,030	4 1/2	48	150,884	95,431	38	0.62	23.86	59,552				●	●		
	PORTERVILLE	34,500	34,571	5,400	6	69	194,235	102,783	29	0.56	16.06	57,614				●	●		
	VISALIA	40,700	49,695	10,946	10	62	229,141	207,898	64	0.73	46.92	151,277			●		●	●	
A.	MINIMUM STANDARDS ➧																		
	CENTRAL	40,000	59,092	7,456	17	45	225,200	13,261	6	1.83	46.15	107,999			●		●	●	

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

INCREASES IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS WHEN RESOURCES FROM NEARBY REMOVED LIBRARY BRANCHES ARE ABSORBED

Branch	Projected 1990 Population	Increase from Nearby Communities	Total	Existing Square Feet	Minimum Requirement Square Feet to Service Increase 1990 Population	Cost of Improvement
ALTERNATIVE III						
* DINUBA	17,106		17,106	1,707	11,461	$ 229,220
* OROSI	14,441		14,441	1,459	9,675	193,500
** VISALIA	67,156	6,568	73,724	10,946	49,395	823,710
** WOODLAKE	5,600		5,600	1,364	3,752	54,580
* EXETER	11,930	1,244	13,174	1,382	8,827	176,540
** THREE RIVERS	2,980		2,980	1,757	1,997	13,645
** LINDSAY	11,851	1,130	12,981	2,380	8,697	138,240
** TULARE	34,859	236	35,095	8,030	23,514	309,680
*** TIPTON	1,221		1,221	1,155	818	16,900
*** EARLIMART	3,978	1,007	4,985	1,464	3,340	37,520
** TERRA BELLA	1,988		1,988	1,330	1,332	20,050
* SPRINGVILLE	1,248		1,248	270	836	40,000
*** PORTERVILLE	45,942	4,250	50,192	5,400	33,631	564,620
					Total	$2,618,205
ALTERNATIVE IV						
* DINUBA	17,106		17,106	1,707	11,461	$ 229,220
* OROSI	14,441		14,441	1,459	9,675	193,500
* VISALIA	67,156	6,568	73,724	10,946	49,395	823,710
** WOODLAKE	5,600		5,600	1,364	3,752	54,580
* EXETER	11,930	1,244	13,174	1,382	8,827	176,540
** THREE RIVERS	2,980		2,980	1,757	1,997	13,645
** LINDSAY	11,851	1,130	12,981	2,380	8,697	138,240
*** PORTERVILLE	45,942	5,775	51,717	5,400	33,631	564,620
*** EARLIMART	3,978	1,007	4,985	1,464	3,340	37,520
** TULARE	34,859	1,594	36,453	8,030	23,514	309,680
					Total	$2,541,255
ALTERNATIVE VI						
* DINUBA	17,106	8,665	25,771	1,707	17,266	$ 229,220
** VISALIA	67,156	9,702	76,858	10,946	51,495	823,710
** TULARE	34,859	1,594	36,453	8,030	24,423	309,680
* EXETER	11,930	2,400	14,330	1,382	9,601	176,540
** LINDSAY	11,851	1,131	12,982	2,380	8,698	138,240
*** PORTERVILLE	45,942	5,775	51,717	5,400	34,650	564,620
*** EARLIMART	3,978	1,007	4,985	1,464	3,340	37,570
					Total	$2,279,530

* Reconstruction
** Remodeling and expansion
*** Expansion

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Surveys: August 1971, November 1971

INCREASED MINIMUM STANDARDS IN FLOOR AREA, BOOK VOLUMES, AND STAFF WHEN

FULL SERVICE LIBRARIES RECEIVE ADDITIONAL USERS FROM PHASED OUT BRANCHES

ALTERNATIVE VI

LIBRARY	POP. INCREASE			SQ. FT. INCREASE			BOOK VOLUMES			STAFF REQUIRED	
	Projected 1990 population	Increase	Total	Existing 1970	Increase needed to meet minimum standards	Required minimum with additional demand to meet 1990 standards	Existing 1970	Increase needed to meet minimum standards	Minimum standards	Existing 1970	Needed 1970
EARLIMART	3,978	1,007	4,985	1,464	1,876	3,340	6,412	3,558	9,970	1	1
EXETER	11,930	2,400	14,330	1,382	9,219	9,601	13,626	15,034	28,660	2	2
DINUBA	17,106	8,665	25,771	1,707	15,559	17,266	15,744	35,798	51,542	2 1/2	4
PORTERVILLE	45,942	5,775	51,717	5,400	20,459	25,859	34,571	68,863	103,434	6	7
TULARE	34,859	1,594	36,453	8,030	10,197	18,227	31,284	41,622	72,906	4 1/2	5
VISALIA	67,156	9,702	76,858	10,946	27,983	38,429	49,695	104,021	153,716	10	15
LINDSAY	11,851	1,131	12,982	2,380	6,318	8,698	14,070	11,894	25,964	3	3

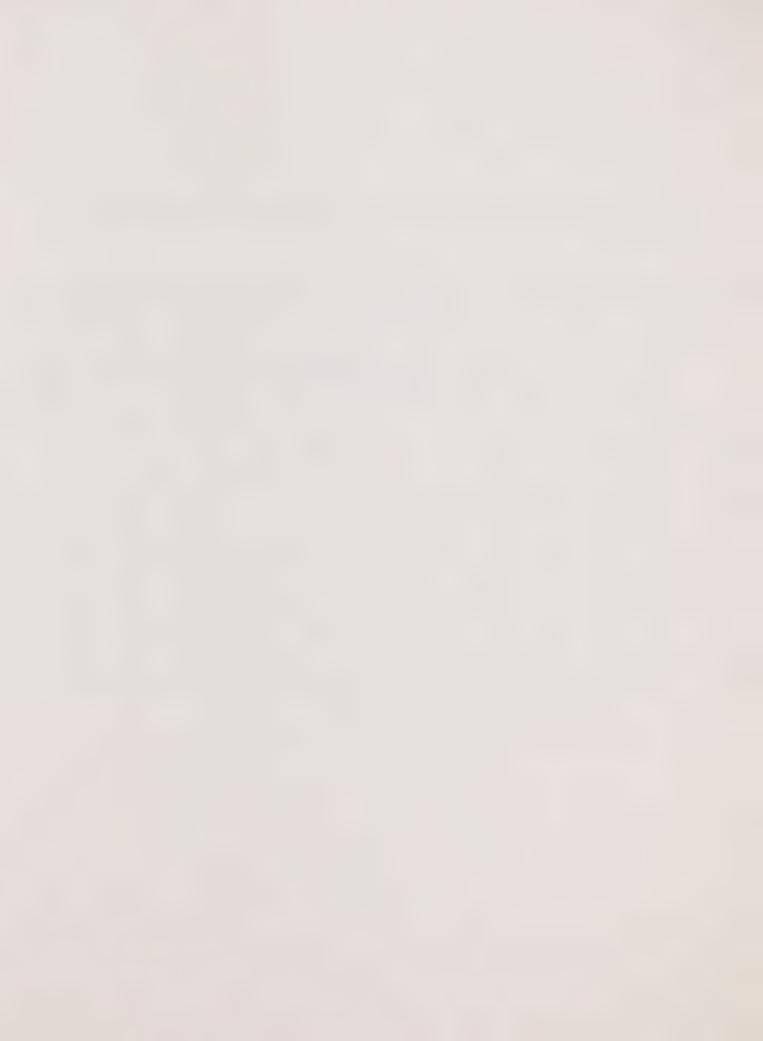Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Survey;   August 1971,   November 1971

INCREASED MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS IN FLOOR AREA, BOOK VOLUMES, AND STAFF WHEN COMMUNITIES RECEIVE ADDITIONAL LIBRARY PATRONS FROM PHASED OUT BRANCHES

ALTERNATIVE III

Community	Population Increase (1990)			Floor Area Increase with Additional Demand (1990)			Book Volume Increase Needed to Supply New Demand			Staff Increase Needed to Service New Demand	
	Existing (1990)	Increase	New pop. of service area	Existing (1970)	Increase to meet minimum standards	Required minimum with additional demand	Existing volumes (1970)	Increase needed to supply minimum standards	Minimum required (1970)	Existing staff (1970)	Staff needed to supply minimum standards
Earlimart	3,878	1,007	4,985	1,464	1,876	3,340	6,412	3,588	9,970	2	2
Exeter	11,980	1,244	13,174	1,382	7,445	8,827	13,626	12,722	26,348	2	3
Lindsay	11,851	1,130	12,981	2,380	6,299	8,697	14,070	11,892	25,962	3	3
Porterville	45,942	4,250	50,192	5,400	19,696	25,096	34,571	65,813	100,384	6	9
Terra Bella	1,988	91	2,079	1,330	670	2,000	5,743	1,257	7,000	1	1
Tipton	1,221	564	1,785	1,155	445	2,000	5,486	1,514	7,000	1	1
Visalia	67,166	6,808	73,964	10,946	26,018	36,982	49,695	98,233	147,928	10	10

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Survey; August 1971, November 1971

PROJECTED REQUIRED INCREASES IN FLOOR AREA FOR EACH BRANCH

BRANCH	Existing sq. ft.	Minimum required sq. footage	Total sq. footage required by 1980	Total sq. footage required by 1990
ALPAUGH	1,155	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
DINUBA	1,707	10,267.8	10,822.5	11,461.0
DUCOR	347	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
EARLIMART	1,464	2,345.0	2,511.8	2,665.3
EXETER	1,382	4,891.0	5,028.0	5,164.0
FARMERSVILLE	600	3,169.0	3,246.0	3,333.3
GOSHEN	720	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
IVANHOE	2,460	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
LINDSAY	2,380	6,700.0	7,569.0	7,940.2
OROSI	1,459	5,628.0	7,598.0	8,646.0
PIXLEY	1,260	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
POPLAR	480	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
PORTERVILLE	5,400	•17,250.0	19,756.0	22,971.0
SPRINGVILLE	270	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
STRATHMORE	650	2,412.0	3,409.0	3,787.5
TERRA BELLA	1,330	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
THREE RIVERS	1,757	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
TIPTON	1,155	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0
TULARE	8,030	13,400.0	15,249.0	17,429.0
VISALIA	10,946	20,350.0	25,691.0	33,578.0
WOODLAKE	1,364	3,557.0	3,639.4	3,752.0
WOODVILLE	N.A.	2,000.0	2,000.0	2,000.0

Note: Minimum sq. ft. calculated at 0.67 sq. ft. per person in service area (for branches under 25,000 population), 0.50 sq. ft. per person in those branches with 25,000 or more people in service area.

Source: Tulare County Planning Department

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PHYSICAL AND

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN ALTERNATIVES

ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES	PHYSICAL PLAN ALTERNATIVES	
	Given No Consolidation	Some Form of Unification or Consolidation
A No change to existing systems (No major improvements)		
B No change to existing systems (Upgrade all county facilities)	II	
C No change to existing systems (Upgrade select county libraries to area-wide libraries)	V & VI	
D No change to existing systems (Upgrade central facility)	VII	
E Complete consolidation of 3 city systems under administration of county		I, II, III, IV V, VI, VIII
F No change to existing systems (Contract with one city to administer)	II, III IV, VII	I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII
G No change to existing systems (Contract with all 3 cities to administer)		I, II, III, IV V, VI, VIII
H Consolidate all systems (Contract with one city within or outside county, or with another county to administer)		I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII
I Establish a county-wide library district		I, II, III, IV, V, VI
J Establish individual districts for major population centers	I, II, III IV, V, VI	
K Dissolve existing systems and turn over to school districts	I, II, III IV, V, VI	
L Full consolidation of all systems under county administration. Upgrade area-wide libraries.		V, VIII

Source: Tulare County Planning Department Library Study

- RESULTS -

1. SEX

%		
35.4	1,468	MALE
64.6	2,675	FEMALE
100.0	4,143*	TOTAL

2. AGE

%		
20.5	850	10-14
16.0	663	15-19
11.0	458	20-24
8.1	336	25-29
14.7	609	30-39
10.7	444	40-49
8.9	368	50-59
3.9	160	60-64
4.8	198	65-74
1.5	62	75 OR OVER
100.0	4,146*	TOTAL

3. MARITAL STATUS

%		
44.9	1,851	SINGLE
48.2	1,986	MARRIED
3.4	140	DIVORCED
3.5	144	WIDOWED
100.0	4,121*	TOTAL

4. HOW FAR DO YOU TRAVEL TO GET TO THE LIBRARY FROM YOUR
    HOME?

%		
38.0	1,574	10 BLOCKS OR LESS
26.6	1,100	1-2 MILES
19.7	815	3-5 MILES
8.9	367	6-10 MILES
2.7	113	11-15 MILES
1.3	54	16-20 MILES
1.5	64	OVER 20 MILES

(MORE)

1.0	41	OUTSIDE TULARE COUNTY
.3	13	OUTSIDE STATE
100.0	4,141*	TOTAL

5. HOW FAR DO YOU TRAVEL TO GET TO THE LIBRARY FROM YOUR SCHOOL OR BUSINESS?

%		
46.8	1,548	10 BLOCKS OR LESS
21.8	721	1-2 MILES
14.2	471	3-5 MILES
7.7	255	6-10 MILES
3.2	107	11-15 MILES
1.6	53	16-20 MILES
4.6	152	OVER 20 MILES
100.0	3,307*	TOTAL

6. HOW MUCH EDUCATION HAVE YOU HAD?

%		
15.6	642	1ST THROUGH 7TH GRADE
7.4	306	8TH GRADE
14.7	606	9TH THROUGH 11TH GRADE
20.9	864	12TH GRADE
23.8	981	1-3 YEARS OF COLLEGE
7.9	326	COLLEGE GRADUATE (B.A. OR B.S. DEGREE)
5.1	211	GRADUATE WORK BUT NO DEGREE
4.2	172	GRADUATE WORK WITH MASTER OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
.4	17	GRADUATE WORK WITH DOCTORATE
100.0	4,125*	TOTAL

7. EMPLOYMENT STATUS

%		
36.1	1,433	EMPLOYED
40.5	1,605	UNEMPLOYED
14.4	571	PART-TIME
9.0	357	RETIRED
100.0	3,966*	TOTAL

8. WHAT IS YOUR USUAL OCCUPATION?

%		
6.5	262	SKILLED WORKER OR TECHNICIAN
3.1	127	MANAGERIAL (INCLUDING FARM MANAGER)
20.3	822	HOUSEWIFE
8.6	348	CLERICAL OR SALES
2.8	113	FARM WORKER
15.6	631	PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL (I.E. DOCTOR, ENGINEER, TEACHER)
34.5	1,397	STUDENT
8.7	352	OTHER
100.0	4,052*	TOTAL

9. HOW OFTEN DO YOU USE THE LIBRARY?

%		
7.2	296	ALMOST DAILY
26.9	1,100	WEEKLY
24.3	994	EVERY TWO WEEKS
10.7	437	EVERY THREE WEEKS
19.6	801	MONTHLY
6.8	279	EVERY SIX MONTHS
4.5	183	ABOUT ONCE A YEAR
100.0	4,090*	TOTAL

10. WHAT IS YOUR MAIN PURPOSE FOR USING THE LIBRARY TODAY?

%		
27.2	1,120	READING BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, IN THE LIBRARY
7.2	296	USING REFERENCE OR OTHER NONCIRCULATING MATERIALS
36.1	1,487	BORROWING READING MATERIAL FOR ENTERTAINMENT
4.6	190	OBTAINING INFORMATION & MATERIALS FOR OCCUPATION OR EMPLOYMENT
9.1	374	BORROWING ESCAPE/RELAXATION READING
7.8	322	OBTAINING INFORMATION AND MATERIALS FOR PERSONAL USE OR ACTIVITY (HOBBY, HOME IMPROVEMENT, CLUB PROJECT, GENERAL INTEREST)
.4	15	OBTAINING REFERENCE OR READER'S ADVISORY ASSISTANCE FROM LIBRARIAN
1.7	69	OBTAINING INFORMATION & MATERIALS FOR SCHOOL STUDY-PROJECT
.5	21	SPECIAL MATERIALS OR PROGRAM (SUCH AS FILMS, RECORDINGS, ATTENDING STORY HOUR OR ADULT PROGRAM)
3.7	152	USING LIBRARY FOR YOURSELF
1.7	69	USING LIBRARY FOR ANOTHER PERSON
100.0	4,115*	TOTAL

** 11. WHAT IS YOUR MAIN PURPOSE FOR USING THE LIBRARY TODAY?

%		
	0	READING BOOKS, MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS IN THE LIBRARY
2.2	63	USING REFERENCE OR OTHER NONCIRCULATING MATERIALS
10.0	283	BORROWING READING MATERIAL FOR ENTERTAINMENT
4.8	137	OBTAINING INFORMATION & MATERIALS FOR OCCUPATION OR EMPLOYMENT
14.3	406	BORROWING ESCAPE/RELAXATION READING
21.0	596	OBTAINING INFORMATION AND MATERIALS FOR PERSONAL USE OR ACTIVITY (HOBBY, HOME IMPROVEMENT, CLUB PROJECT, GENERAL INTEREST)
1.7	49	OBTAINING REFERENCE OR READER'S ADVISORY ASSISTANCE FROM LIBRARIAN
10.5	298	OBTAINING INFORMATION & MATERIALS FOR SCHOOL STUDY-PROJECT

(MORE)

2.0	56	SPECIAL MATERIALS OR PROGRAM (SUCH AS FILMS, RECORD-INGS, ATTENDING STORY HOUR OR ADULT PROGRAM
26.6	755	USING LIBRARY FOR YOURSELF
6.8	192	USING LIBRARY FOR ANOTHER PERSON
100.0	2,835*	TOTAL

** 12.   WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%

37.2	1,512	MYSTERIES
4.9	199	WESTERNS
6.6	267	SCIENCE FICTION
5.9	239	LOVE STORIES
14.1	571	OTHER POPULAR FICTION
5.6	227	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS
5.8	237	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
6.9	279	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
.7	28	LANGUAGE BOOKS
1.6	64	ARTS AND MUSIC
2.2	89	PSYCHOLOGY
1.3	54	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
.6	24	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
3.5	143	BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY, TRAVEL
1.0	41	CURRENT POPULAR NON-FICTION
1.1	45	SPORTS AND RECREATION
.3	14	ACTION, WAR STORIES
.7	27	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
100.0	4,060*	TOTAL

** 13.   WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%

	0	MYSTERIES
6.7	222	WESTERNS
8.6	283	SCIENCE FICTION
12.1	399	LOVE STORIES
15.3	502	OTHER POPULAR FICTION
7.2	236	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS
3.8	125	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
10.9	358	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
1.2	39	LANGUAGE BOOKS
3.9	127	ARTS AND MUSIC
3.5	114	PSYCHOLOGY
4.5	147	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
2.2	73	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
10.7	351	BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY, TRAVEL
3.9	127	CURRENT POPULAR NON-FICTION
3.4	113	SPORTS AND RECREATION
.8	26	ACTION, WAR STORIES
	(MORE)	

1.5	49	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
100.0	3,291*	TOTAL

14. WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%

	0	MYSTERIES
.0	1	WESTERNS
1.3	35	SCIENCE FICTION
4.2	118	LOVE STORIES
10.3	289	OTHER POPULAR FICTION
4.3	120	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS
1.7	47	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
6.3	176	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
.6	16	LANGUAGE BOOKS
4.0	113	ARTS AND MUSIC
2.4	68	PSYCHOLOGY
2.7	76	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
4.7	132	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
14.0	392	BIOGRAPHY, HISTORY, TRAVEL
14.6	409	CURRENT POPULAR NON-FICTION
7.3	204	SPORTS AND RECREATION
7.6	212	ACTION, WAR STORIES
13.8	386	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
100.0	2,794*	TOTAL

15. IF YOU DON'T FIND THE BOOK OR MATERIAL YOU NEED IN THIS
LIBRARY, DO YOU USUALLY:

%

5.9	240	GIVE UP
73.7	2,980	ASK THE LIBRARIAN
10.3	416	USE THE FREE REQUEST SERVICE
1.8	74	BUY THE BOOK INSTEAD
2.5	102	GO TO ANOTHER COUNTY BRANCH LIBRARY
1.7	70	GO TO A CITY LIBRARY
1.2	50	GO TO A HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
2.7	110	GO TO A COLLEGE LIBRARY
100.0	4,042*	TOTAL

** 16. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%

57.8	2,024	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
6.1	215	LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE
7.7	269	OPEN SATURDAYS
4.2	146	OPEN SUNDAYS
2.9	103	OPEN EVENINGS

(MORE)

-5-

1.9	66	MORE PERIODICALS
.9	33	MORE BACK FILES OF PERIODICALS
.5	19	BETTER INFORMED LIBRARY STAFF
.4	15	LARGER LIBRARY STAFF
1.1	37	SMOKING AREA IN LIBRARY
1.3	44	LOUNGE AREA IN LIBRARY
2.8	97	BACKGROUND MUSIC
.5	17	LESS STRICT RULES ON TALKING
.3	10	LESS STRICT RULES ON MATERIAL USE
1.0	34	CIRCULATING ART REPRODUCTIONS
.7	23	CIRCULATING FILMS
1.0	34	RECORD LISTENING EQUIPMENT
.8	29	CASSETTE RECORDINGS FOR LOAN
1.1	40	LARGER REFERENCE COLLECTION
1.7	61	LARGER BUILDING
.4	15	BRANCH LIBRARY NEAR MY HOME
.8	27	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
.7	24	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
3.5	122	NEWER BOOKS
100.0	3,504*	TOTAL

** 17. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICE OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
10.2	270	LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE
14.1	374	OPEN SATURDAYS
10.2	270	OPEN SUNDAYS
8.0	211	OPEN EVENINGS
8.0	212	MORE PERIODICALS
3.1	82	MORE BACK FILES OF PERIODICALS
1.6	42	BETTER INFORMED LIBRARY STAFF
2.2	57	LARGER LIBRARY STAFF
2.3	62	SMOKING AREA IN LIBRARY
4.8	127	LOUNGE AREA IN LIBRARY
7.8	205	BACKGROUND MUSIC
1.3	35	LESS STRICT RULES ON TALKING
.9	23	LESS STRICT RULES ON MATERIAL USE
3.2	85	CIRCULATING ART REPRODUCTIONS
3.2	84	CIRCULATING FILMS
3.4	91	RECORD LISTENING EQUIPMENT
1.2	31	CASSETTE RECORDINGS FOR LOAN
3.4	91	LARGER REFERENCE COLLECTION
3.1	82	LARGER BUILDING
.5	12	BRANCH LIBRARY NEAR MY HOME
1.3	34	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
1.0	26	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
5.3	139	NEWER BOOKS
100.0	2,645*	TOTAL

** 18. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
	0	LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE
3.2	72	OPEN SATURDAYS
6.5	147	OPEN SUNDAYS
7.5	168	OPEN EVENINGS
3.9	89	MORE PERIODICALS
3.6	81	MORE BACK FILES OF PERIODICALS
1.4	32	BETTER INFORMED LIBRARY STAFF
2.1	48	LARGER LIBRARY STAFF
1.6	35	SMOKING AREA IN LIBRARY
4.1	93	LOUNGE AREA IN LIBRARY
10.9	245	BACKGROUND MUSIC
2.9	65	LESS STRICT RULES ON TALKING
2.8	63	LESS STRICT RULES ON MATERIAL USE
3.4	77	CIRCULATING ART REPRODUCTIONS
6.5	146	CIRCULATING FILMS
9.5	215	RECORD LISTENING EQUIPMENT
5.1	116	CASSETTE RECORDINGS FOR LOAN
6.8	153	LARGER REFERENCE COLLECTION
6.5	146	LARGER BUILDING
1.0	23	BRANCH LIBRARY NEAR MY HOME
1.8	41	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
1.4	31	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
7.5	169	NEWER BOOKS
100.0	2,255*	TOTAL

** 19. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
	0	LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE
	0	OPEN SATURDAYS
1.7	32	OPEN SUNDAYS
3.6	68	OPEN EVENINGS
1.4	26	MORE PERIODICALS
1.1	21	MORE BACK FILES OF PERIODICALS
.5	10	BETTER INFORMED LIBRARY STAFF
.5	10	LARGER LIBRARY STAFF
1.0	19	SMOKING AREA IN LIBRARY
2.9	54	LOUNGE AREA IN LIBRARY
5.2	98	BACKGROUND MUSIC
2.2	42	LESS STRICT RULES ON TALKING
2.0	37	LESS STRICT RULES ON MATERIAL USE
2.0	37	CIRCULATING ART REPRODUCTIONS
4.5	85	CIRCULATING FILMS
10.4	197	RECORD LISTENING EQUIPMENT
10.0	189	CASSETTE RECORDINGS FOR LOAN

(MORE)

10.8	204	LARGER REFERENCE COLLECTION
16.1	303	LARGER BUILDING
2.9	55	BRANCH LIBRARY NEAR MY HOME
7.5	142	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
5.9	111	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
7.7	146	NEWER BOOKS
100.0	1,886*	TOTAL

20. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%

	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
	0	LONGER HOURS OF SERVICE
	0	OPEN SATURDAYS
	0	OPEN SUNDAYS
1.0	17	OPEN EVENINGS
.2	4	MORE PERIODICALS
.3	5	MORE BACK FILES OF PERIODICALS
.1	1	BETTER INFORMED LIBRARY STAFF
.1	2	LARGER LIBRARY STAFF
.2	3	SMOKING AREA IN LIBRARY
.6	10	LOUNGE AREA IN LIBRARY
1.1	18	BACKGROUND MUSIC
.6	10	LESS STRICT RULES ON TALKING
.7	12	LESS STRICT RULES ON MATERIAL USE
.4	7	CIRCULATING ART REPRODUCTIONS
1.4	22	CIRCULATING FILMS
3.7	61	RECORD LISTENING EQUIPMENT
5.8	94	CASSETTE RECORDINGS FOR LOAN
5.8	94	LARGER REFERENCE COLLECTION
9.8	160	LARGER BUILDING
2.0	33	BRANCH LIBRARY NEAR MY HOME
4.8	79	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
8.8	143	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
52.4	854	NEWER BOOKS
100.0	1,629*	TOTAL

21. GROSS ANNUAL INCOME OF YOUR FAMILY (BEFORE TAXES)?

%

13.8	440	$0-$3,999
12.4	395	$4,000-5,999
12.0	381	$6,000-7,999
14.5	461	$8,000-9,999
26.0	826	$10,000-14,999
11.2	355	$15,000-19,999
4.9	156	$20,000-24,999
5.3	169	$25,000 AND OVER
100.0	3,183*	TOTAL

22. IN WHAT COMMUNITY DO YOU LIVE? (PART I)

%		
8.8	344	DINUBA
6.3	247	EXETER
1.3	49	FARMERSVILLE
6.8	264	LINDSAY
19.7	768	PORTERVILLE
10.2	399	TULARE
19.1	748	VISALIA
2.7	107	WOODLAKE
.4	17	CUTLER
4.0	157	EARLIMART
.4	15	GOSHEN
2.2	85	IVANHOE
.9	37	OROSI
.8	31	PIXLEY
.8	31	POPLAR
.2	6	RICHGROVE
15.4	603	NONE OF THESE
100.0	3,908*	TOTAL

23. IN WHAT COMMUNITY DO YOU LIVE? (PART II)

%		
10.6	177	STRATHMORE
5.5	92	TERRA BELLA
2.0	33	WOODVILLE
	0	ALLENSWORTH
2.2	37	ALPAUGH
.5	9	COTTON CENTER
.4	6	DELFT COLONY
1.7	29	DUCOR
2.0	34	LEMON COVE
1.0	17	LONDON
.2	4	PLAINVIEW
.1	1	SEVILLE
.9	15	TIPTON
.4	7	TRAVER
.2	3	WAUKENA
.4	6	YETTEM
71.8	1,197	NONE OF THESE
100.0	1,667*	TOTAL

24. WHERE DO YOU GO FOR ROUTINE SHOPPING (GROCERIES,GAS, ETC.)?

%		
22.2	904	HOME COMMUNITY
8.6	352	TULARE
25.0	1,019	PORTERVILLE

(MORE)

21.1	859	VISALIA
5.5	224	DINUBA
.9	38	FARMERSVILLE
3.6	145	EXETER
3.7	151	LINDSAY
1.5	62	WOODLAKE
1.9	76	EARLIMART
.8	31	PIXLEY
5.3	218	NONE OF THESE
100.0	4,079*	TOTAL

25. WHERE DO YOU GO FOR MAJOR PURCHASES (FURNITURE, AUTOMOBILE, ETC.)?

%		
9.0	356	HOME COMMUNITY
20.7	824	PORTERVILLE
39.8	1,584	VISALIA
5.8	232	TULARE
3.0	119	DINUBA
.0	1	FARMERSVILLE
.3	11	WOODLAKE
.8	30	EXETER
1.5	59	LINDSAY
.1	3	PIXLEY
.2	6	EARLIMART
7.9	313	FRESNO
3.4	134	BAKERSFIELD
7.7	305	NONE OF THESE
100.0	3,977*	TOTAL

26. HOW DID YOU GET TO THE LIBRARY?

%		
18.2	748	WALKED FROM HOME
2.2	90	WALKED FROM SCHOOL OR BUSINESS
.2	7	CAME IN SCHOOL BUS
1.0	41	BOOKMOBILE CAME TO SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY
68.4	2,807	CAME IN CAR
4.0	165	ON YOUR OWN
2.3	95	BROUGHT BY OTHERS
3.7	153	OTHER
100.0	4,106*	TOTAL

27. WHAT LANGUAGE IS MOST SPOKEN AT HOME?

%		
89.6	3,680	ENGLISH

(MORE)

-10-

7.5	306	SPANISH
.2	10	PORTUGUESE
.6	24	PHILLIPINE
.9	37	ARMENIAN
.2	8	FRENCH
.1	6	ITALIAN
.9	36	OTHER
100.0	4,107*	TOTAL

** MULTIPLE CHOICE RESPONSES

COUNTY AND CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY

Fall, November 8 - 20, 1971

RESULTS

1.   HOW OFTEN DO YOU USE THE LIBRARY?

%		
7.3	237	ALMOST DAILY
19.7	644	WEEKLY
47.7	1,555	EVERY TWO WEEKS
6.4	209	EVERY THREE WEEKS
10.8	351	MONTHLY
4.7	152	EVERY SIX MONTHS
3.5	113	ABOUT ONCE A YEAR
100.0	3,261*	TOTAL

2.   SEX

%		
59.1	1,907	FEMALE
40.9	1,320	MALE
100.0	3,227*	TOTAL

3. AGE

%		
52.4	1,717	10 - 14
14.4	472	15 - 19
5.1	166	20 - 24
4.5	146	25 - 29
7.5	246	30 - 39
5.4	176	40 - 49
4.7	154	50 - 59
2.1	68	60 - 64
3.1	100	65 - 74
.9	30	75 or Over
100.0	3,275*	TOTAL

4.   HOW FAR DO YOU TRAVEL TO GET TO THE LIBRARY?

%		
62.2	2,020	10 BLOCKS OR LESS
16.3	529	1 - 2 MILES
11.9	385	3 - 5 MILES
5.8	188	6 -10 MILES
1.7	54	11 -15 MILES
.8	25	16 -20 MILES
.6	20	OVER 20 MILES
.6	20	OUTSIDE TULARE COUNTY
.2	5	OUTSIDE STATE
100.0	3,246*	TOTAL

- 1 -

5. HOW MUCH EDUCATION HAVE YOU HAD?

%		
44.1	1,442	1st THROUGH 7th GRADE
9.6	312	8th GRADE
11.8	385	9th THROUGH 11th GRADE
13.0	425	12th GRADE
12.6	411	1 - 3 YEARS OF COLLEGE
4.4	143	COLLEGE GRADUATE (B.A. OR B.S. DEGREE)
2.2	72	GRADUATE WORK BUT NO DEGREE
2.0	65	GRADUATE WORK WITH MASTERS OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE
.4	12	GRADUATE WORK WITH DOCTORATE
100.0	3,267*	TOTAL

6. EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

%		
18.6	606	EMPLOYED
4.4	143	UNEMPLOYED
11.2	364	HOUSEWIFE
62.1	2,022	STUDENT
3.7	121	RETIRED
100.0	3,256*	TOTAL

7. FOR WHAT PURPOSE DO YOU GENERALLY USE THE LIBRARY?

%		
21.2	692	SELF EDUCATION
52.5	1,712	RECREATIONAL READING
23.6	770	SCHOOL CONNECTED
2.6	85	JOB CONNECTED
100.0	3,259*	TOTAL

8. IN THE LIBRARY YOU REGULARLY USE: IS THE STAFF HELPFUL?

%		
79.2	2,599	YES
2.5	82	NO
18.3	599	SOMETIMES
100.0	3,280	TOTAL

9. IF YOU DON'T FIND THE BOOK OR MATERIAL YOU NEED IN THIS LIBRARY AND
    YOU HAVE ASKED THE LIBRARIAN, DO YOU

%		
21.1	667	GIVE UP
49.1	1,550	USE THE FREE REQUEST SERVICE
3.5	112	BUY THE BOOK
7.2	227	GO TO A COUNTY BRANCH LIBRARY
9.5	300	GO TO A CITY LIBRARY
5.2	163	GO TO A HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
4.4	139	GO TO A COLLEGE LIBRARY
100.0	3,158*	TOTAL

10. THE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM SERVES THE ENTIRE COUNTY EXCEPT FOR THE CITIES OF PORTERVILLE, TULARE, AND VISALIA

%		
38.5	1,209	YES
17.5	551	NO
43.5	1,367	DON'T KNOW
.5	16	OTHER
100.0	3,143*	TOTAL

11. GROSS ANNUAL INCOME OF YOUR FAMILY (BEFORE TAXES)?

%		
17.3	302	$0 - 3,999
15.8	276	$4,000 - 5,999
14.4	251	$6,000 - 7,999
14.4	252	$8,000 - 9,999
19.9	347	$10,000 - 14,999
7.6	132	$15,000 - 19,999
3.9	69	$20,000 - 24,999
6.8	119	$25,000 AND OVER
100.0	1,748*	TOTAL

12. DO YOU USUALLY USE THE LIBRARY:

%		
95.6	3,017	FOR YOURSELF
4.4	138	FOR ANOTHER PERSON
100.0	3,155*	TOTAL

**13. WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%		
43.9	1,429	MYSTERIES
7.3	238	WESTERNS
7.9	258	SCIENCE FICTION
8.1	264	LOVE STORIES
10.9	353	POPULAR FICTION AND NON-FICTION
2.5	80	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS
4.6	151	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
4.9	161	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
1.3	43	ARTS AND MUSIC
1.6	51	PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
.4	14	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
1.9	63	HISTORY, TRAVEL
2.1	67	SPORTS, ACTION, WAR STORIES
.6	19	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
1.4	45	CHILDREN'S BOOKS
.5	17	BIOGRAPHY
100.0	3,253*	TOTAL

**14. WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%		
	0	MYSTERIES
8.1	224	WESTERNS
10.6	292	SCIENCE FICTION
16.2	448	LOVE STORIES
11.4	314	POPULAR FICTION AND NON-FICTION
5.2	145	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS

4.8	132	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
11.9	330	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
6.0	167	ARTS AND MUSIC
4.4	122	PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
3.2	88	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
7.6	209	HISTORY, TRAVEL
5.9	162	SPORTS, ACTION, WAR STORIES
2.4	66	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
1.6	43	CHILDREN'S BOOKS
.8	23	BIOGRAPHY
100.0	2,765*	TOTAL

**15. WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS DO YOU BORROW MOST OFTEN?

%	0	MYSTERIES
	0	WESTERNS
1.4	36	SCIENCE FICTION
4.2	109	LOVE STORIES
6.2	161	POPULAR FICTION AND NON-FICTION
3.3	86	MODERN AND STANDARD CLASSICS
1.6	42	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
6.2	159	HOBBY AND HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS
5.1	132	ARTS AND MUSIC
3.4	88	PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
5.0	129	DRAMA, POETRY, CRITICISM
8.8	227	HISTORY, TRAVEL
18.2	469	SPORTS, ACTION, WAR STORIES
8.7	225	NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT
15.7	405	CHILDREN'S BOOKS
12.0	309	BIOGRAPHY
100.0	2,577*	TOTAL

**16. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
71.7	2,115	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
11.6	342	CASSETTE TAPES FOR LOAN
6.6	196	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
1.9	55	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
4.8	141	NEWER BOOKS
1.6	48	COPY MACHINE SERVICE
.3	9	CIRCULATING, FRAMED ART REPRODUCTIONS
.4	13	MATERIALS FOR INVESTORS AND BUSINESSMEN
1.1	31	LESS FORMAL LIBRARY ATMOSPHERE
100.0	2,950*	TOTAL

**17. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
25.2	574	CASSETTE TAPES FOR LOAN
23.0	523	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
9.8	224	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
31.0	706	NEWER BOOKS

COUNTY AND CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY SURVEY

%		
7.5	170	COPY MACHINE SERVICE
2.1	48	CIRCULATING, FRAMED ART REPRODUCTIONS
.7	17	MATERIALS FOR INVESTORS AND BUSINESSMEN
.7	16	LESS FORMAL LIBRARY ATMOSPHERE
100.0	2,278*	TOTAL

**18. WHAT IS MOST NEEDED TO IMPROVE SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY?

%		
	0	LARGER BOOK COLLECTION
	0	CASSETTE TAPES FOR LOAN
3.5	69	IMPROVED CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
4.0	80	LIBRARY ADULT PROGRAMS
40.4	807	NEWER BOOKS
18.4	368	COPY MACHINE SERVICE
8.5	169	CIRCULATING, FRAMED ART REPRODUCTIONS
8.8	175	MATERIALS FOR INVESTORS AND BUSINESSMEN
16.5	329	LESS FORMAL LIBRARY ATMOSPHERE
100.0	1,997*	TOTAL

19. WHAT ADDITIONAL HOURS, NOT NOW SCHEDULED, WOULD YOU MOST LIKE YOUR LIBRARY TO BE OPEN?

%		
25.9	639	SUNDAY AFTERNOONS
11.2	276	ADDITIONAL SATURDAY HOURS
8.1	199	SATURDAY MORNINGS
16.3	404	SATURDAY AFTERNOONS
38.6	953	WEEKDAY EVENINGS
100.0	2,471*	TOTAL

20. WOULD YOU RATHER USE A SMALL LIBRARY CLOSER TO HOME, OR A LARGER BETTER EQUIPPED LIBRARY, OPEN LONGER?

%		
46.8	1,375	SMALL LIBRARY CLOSE
48.3	1,419	BETTER LIBRARY CENTRALLY LOCATED
4.9	144	OTHER
100.0	2,938*	TOTAL

21. IN WHAT COMMUNITY - DO YOU LIVE? (PART I)

%		
.1	3	ALLENSWORTH
1.2	31	ALPAUGH
.9	22	COTTON CENTER
5.6	142	CUTLER
.3	7	DELFT COLONY
9.6	243	DINUBA
.7	17	DUCOR
13.2	333	EARLIMART
6.4	162	EXETER
1.6	41	FARMERSVILLE
.4	11	GOSHEN
5.1	130	IVANHOE
1.6	40	LEMON COVE
8.3	209	LINDSAY
.4	9	LONDON

%		
1.6	40	OROSI
1.1	29	PIXLEY
41.9	1,058	NONE OF THESE
100.0	2,527*	TOTAL

22. IN WHAT COMMUNITY - USE THE LIBRARY? (PART I)

%		
	0	ALLENSWORTH
1.1	27	ALPAUGH
.3	6	COTTON CENTER
4.6	109	CUTLER
.2	5	DELFT COLONY
10.9	259	DINUBA
.7	17	DUCOR
14.1	333	EARLIMART
6.5	154	EXETER
.8	20	FARMERSVILLE
.4	10	GOSHEN
5.2	124	IVANHOE
2.3	55	LEMON COVE
8.2	195	LINDSAY
.3	6	LONDON
2.1	49	OROSI
1.1	26	PIXLEY
41.1	974	NONE OF THESE
100.0	2,369*	TOTAL

23. IN WHAT COMMUNITY - DO YOU LIVE? (PART 2)

%		
1.1	22	PLAINVIEW
2.9	61	POPLAR
11.8	246	PORTERVILLE
.0	1	RICHGROVE
1.6	33	SEVILLE
.6	13	SPRINGVILLE
7.6	158	STRATHMORE
2.7	56	TERRA BELLA
2.3	47	THREE RIVERS
.7	14	TIPTON
1.9	40	TRAVER
14.4	298	TULARE
15.2	316	VISALIA
1.7	35	WAUKENA
2.9	61	WOODLAKE
7.7	160	WOODVILLE
.7	14	YETTEM
24.1	501	NONE OF THESE
100.0	2,076*	TOTAL

24. IN WHAT COMMUNITY - USE THE LIBRARY? (PART 2)

%		
.1	3	PLAINVIEW
2.5	50	POPLAR
10.6	214	PORTERVILLE
.0	1	RICHGROVE

1.3	26	SEVILLE
.3	7	SPRINGVILLE
9.2	186	STRATHMORE
2.4	49	TERRA BELLA
2.3	46	THREE RIVERS
.4	9	TIPTON
2.2	44	TRAVER
13.0	261	TULARE
14.7	297	VISALIA
1.4	29	WAUKENA
3.7	75	WOODLAKE
7.0	141	WOODVILLE
.2	5	YETTEM
28.4	571	NONE OF THESE
100.0	2,014*	TOTAL

25. WHERE DO YOU GO FOR ROUTINE SHOPPING (GROCERIES, GAS, ETC.)?

%		
10.4	325	DELANO
10.3	322	DINUBA
2.2	70	EARLIMART
5.2	162	EXETER
1.5	46	FARMERSVILLE
7.0	218	LINDSAY
.9	28	PIXLEY
20.5	642	PORTERVILLE
.2	6	SPRINGVILLE
1.1	34	THREE RIVERS
9.9	312	TULARE
19.0	596	VISALIA
2.1	67	WOODLAKE
9.8	308	NONE OF THESE
100.0	3,136*	TOTAL

26. WHERE DO YOU GO FOR MAJOR PURCHASES (FURNITURE, AUTOMOBILE, ETC.)?

%		
8.7	269	BAKERSFIELD
6.1	189	DELANO
5.4	167	DINUBA
.2	6	EARLIMART
1.1	35	EXETER
.2	7	FARMERSVILLE
10.0	311	FRESNO
1.7	53	LINDSAY
.2	5	PIXLEY
17.1	531	PORTERVILLE
.3	9	REEDLEY
7.6	235	TULARE
35.6	1,106	VISALIA
.3	8	WOODLAKE
5.7	177	NONE OF THESE
100.0	3,108*	TOTAL

27. DO YOU USUALLY VISIT THE LIBRARY ALONG WITH:

%		
12.4	366	SHOPPING
71.6	2,105	COME JUST FOR LIBRARY VISIT
16.0	470	OTHER
100.0	2,941*	TOTAL

28. HOW DO YOU USUALLY GET TO THE LIBRARY?

%		
31.3	985	WALK
41.7	1,313	CAR
4.8	150	BICYCLE
20.5	647	BOOKMOBILE AT SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY
1.7	55	OTHER
100.0	3,150*	TOTAL

29. DID YOU GET TO THE LIBRARY:

%		
78.4	2,455	ON YOUR OWN
21.6	677	BROUGHT BY OTHERS (CAR, SCHOOL BUS, ETC.)
100.0	3,132*	TOTAL

30. DO YOU EVER TELEPHONE FOR INFORMATION?

%		
37.6	1,168	YES
62.4	1,937	NO
100.0	3,105*	TOTAL

31. DO YOU GET ADEQUATE TELEPHONE SERVICE?

%		
65.2	1,434	YES
19.9	438	NO
14.9	327	SOMETIMES
100.0	2,199*	TOTAL

32. DO YOU FEEL YOUR LIBRARY IS GENERALLY ADEQUATE?

%		
73.3	2,270	YES
9.4	290	NO
17.3	536	SOMETIMES
100.0	3,096*	TOTAL

33. WHAT LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS SPOKEN AT HOME?

%		
6.5	192	ARMENIAN
.5	16	CHINESE
1.4	43	FRENCH
1.0	30	ITALIAN
1.0	30	JAPANESE
1.4	43	PHILIPPINE
2.7	81	PORTUGUESE

26.9	798	SPANISH
2.8	83	OTHER
55.6	1,650	NONE
100.0	2,966*	TOTAL

** MULTIPLE CHOICE RESPONSES